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Joseph Bonaparte

Published Jan.y 1824 by George Andrews Durham

MEMOIRS

OF

COUNT BORUWLASKI:

CONTAINING

A SKETCH OF HIS TRAVELS,

WITH

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS RECEPTION

AT THE DIFFERENT

COURTS OF EUROPE,

&c. &c.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

DURHAM:

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1820.

157671

DEDICATION.

TO HIS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

GEORGE THE FOURTH,

KING OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,

&c. &c. &c.

May it please your Majesty,

I can find no words sufficiently expressive, to convey my grateful sense of the numerous favours conferred upon me by your Majesty, since my arrival in this kingdom, as well as of your gracious condescension in permitting me to dedicate to your Majesty this humble Work. Allow me, therefore, to assure your Majesty, that what my language is inadequate to describe, I yet most deeply feel. By extending your patronage to this my publication, your Majesty has evinced to the world, that you are not willing to leave destitute of encouragement

the feeblest literary efforts in that country, which your Majesty's counsels have restored to peace, and to establish which, in prosperity, your endeavours are unremittingly exerted. I trust that, as the patron of literature, your Majesty will be rewarded, by your empire proving as glorious in arts as it has been in arms. Under the auspices of your Majesty's protection, I cannot permit myself to entertain a doubt of the success of this little work; and, however imperfect it may in other respects be deemed, I have the satisfaction of knowing, that it will at least be a memorial of your Majesty's kindness to,

Your Majesty's most devoted,

And most humble Servant,

JOSEPH BORUWLASKI.

Durham, June 5, 1820.

CHARACTER

OF

COUNT BORUWLASKI,

BY THE LATE W. BURDON, Esq. OF HARTFORD, NORTHUMBERLAND.

PRINTED FROM A MANUSCRIPT IN THE HAND-WRITING OF THAT GENTLEMAN.

Being intrusted by the Author with the correction and publication of these Memoirs, I cannot forbear saying a few words concerning that interesting and amiable individual to whom they relate.

Though Nature has formed him of size much below the ordinary standard, she has nevertheless endowed him with a mind superior to the generality of men. His talents, though of the lighter kind, are not altogether unequal to serious exertions; and, had they been earlier cultivated, would have left him little below the most profound and intelligent philosophers. As it is, he is most remarkable for his temper and accomplishments,—for his ingenuity, vivacity, wit, humour, and penetration. He has seen much of mankind in various stations of life; and, though considered more as a plaything than as a companion, he has omitted no opportunity of mak-

ing observations on individuals, and on the human species. Few men have a quicker conception than he has; or more readily lay hold of the prominent parts, or represent them with greater humour or greater power of mimicry. His talents for music are of the most agreeable kind: he composes, and plays on the violin and guitar, the most beautiful, little lively airs, with an elegance and facility, that are both rare and astonishing. He dances with all the lightness and ease of an opera performer, and hardly ever tires. His temper is the most agreeable and placid; his feelings lively and correct, and his principles are those of honour, integrity, and gratitude. He never forgets a kindness, nor ever remembers an injury. His head and his heart are equally estimable; and, in short, I cannot name a man for whose amiable amenity and estimable qualities I have a greater regard. W. BURDON.

Welbeck-Street, London, May 14, 1818.

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MEMOIRS,

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CHAP. I.

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IT is so uncommon to find reason and sentiment, with noble and delicate affections, in a man whom nature, as it were, seemed un-

able to make up, and who in size has the appearance of a child, that, being persuaded no body would ever take the trouble to cast an eye upon these Memoirs, I began to commit to paper some of the principal events of my life, merely by way of memorandums, for my own use only, to remind me of the different situations I had been in, and to recal to my memory scenes too interesting, and emotions too strong, to be suffered to perish in oblivion. As the reflections which I shall have occasion to make can be interesting only to those who delight in following nature through all her varieties, and who consequently may be curious to see a being like me assimilate himself to creatures of a common size, as to his ideas, pursuits, sentiments, and passions, and as persons of my description are apt to be looked upon by the multitude as sunk far beneath other men, both in body and mind, I should not have taken the liberty of presenting them to the public, had not persons,

to whom I ought not to refuse any thing, imposed it upon me as a duty. May I be so happy in offering them this tribute of my gratitude, as to convince them how deeply sensible I am of the interest they have taken in my concerns.

I was born in the environs of Chaliez, the capital of Pokucia, in Polish Russia, to which place my father had retired with his family, in consequence of the loss of his estate near the Borosthenes. My mother was of the middle size, and from her account my father was of the same: I do not recollect him, as he was killed during my infancy. They had six children, five sons and one daughter; and by one of those sports of nature for which it is impossible to account, or perhaps to find another instance of in the annals of the human species, three of those children grew to above the middle stature, whilst the two others, like myself, reached only that of chil-

dren in general at the age of four years. I am the third of this family. My eldest brother was near three inches taller than I am, and constantly enjoyed a robust constitution. My second brother was of a handsome figure, but delicate in his constitution : he was killed in battle with my uncle at the age of twenty-six, and was at that time six feet four inches high. Those who came into the world after me were alternately tall and short. Among them was a sister, who died at the age of twenty. She was at that time only two feet four inches high, and to a lovely figure united an admirably well-proportioned shape. It was easy to judge from the very instant of my birth that I should be extremely short, being at that time only eight inches in length, yet notwithstanding this diminutive proportion, I was neither weak nor puny ; on the contrary, my mother has often declared that none of her children gave her less trouble. I walked and was able to speak at the same age

as other infants, and my growth was slowly progressive till the age of thirty years, when I was three feet three inches high. This is the size at which I remained fixed. My brother, as well as myself, grew till thirty years of age, and at that period ceased to grow. I had scarcely entered my ninth year when my father died, and left my mother with six children, and a very small share of the favours of fortune; a circumstance which may account for the part I have since acted in the world. Had it not been for this, I should undoubtedly have passed my days in a province on the banks of the Dniester, where I might have experienced more happiness.

A friend of my mother, the Starostin de Caorlix, who had shown me much affection, and had often solicited my parents to commit my education to her care, now availed herself of the embarrassed circumstances of our family to repeat her kind offers to my mother, who, painful as the separation must have been,

yielded to the desire of making me happy, and consented, though not without tears, to part with me; and the lady took me to her estate, which was not far from my mother's abode. We had no sooner arrived there, than the Starostin, eager to fulfil her promises to my mother, bestowed upon me all the care that my age required. I lived with her a little time; and the fondness of my benefactress no way diminishing, I was likely to be fixed for ever with her, when an unexpected event changed the face of things. Lady de Caorlix was a widow, somewhat advanced in years, but still blooming and graceful, and mistress of a large fortune. The Count de Tarnow, who had been drawn by business to the neighbourhood, paid his court to her, and I soon perceived that she highly distinguished him above all the persons who composed her society. She became pensive and absent, and seemed to be no longer amused with my little prattle, so that I was not surprised at soon

after beholding Hymen unite these two lovers. I was not unconscious of the alteration my situation would experience by their marriage. I perceived that my protectress, by taking a husband, had procured herself a master, and that, should I chance to displease him, I was in danger of being grievously embarrassed, as my family affairs, which were totally deranged, left me no resource. However, young as I was, I considered it to be my duty to be more than ever assiduous in my efforts to please, that I might render myself agreeable to the husband of my benefactress; and I think I should have succeeded, had not a new event given rise to other projects. This happy couple were congratulated on the event of their marriage by all their friends, among whom they numbered the Countess Humiecka.

This lady, who was descended from one of the most ancient families in Poland, was held in the highest esteem in that country, not more

for her birth and wealth, than for her personal attractions. Her estate being situated near the seat of the Starostin, she had frequent opportunities of seeing me, and seemed to have some affection for me, as she often expressed what pleasure she should feel if I would come and live with her at Rychty. My answers to her obliging offers gained me her friendship more and more, and she immediately wrote to my mother, to beg she would give me leave to go and live with her, mentioning the marriage of the Starostin as a circumstance that might deprive me of my happiness in future. My mother was pleased with her request, and allowed me to be under her protection. After this favourable answer from my mother, the Countess Humiecka formed the resolution to ask me of the Countess de Tarnow, and only waited for a favourable opportunity, which soon after presented itself. The circumstance of the Countess de Tarnow, my protectress, being likely to become a mother,

furnished the Countess Humiecka with a pretext. Being one day with the married pair, she artfully insinuated, that maternal love would prevent the Countess from sharing her tenderness with me when the infant should be born, and concluded by offering to take me home with her, promising faithfully the greatest care of my little person, and of my future welfare. Whether they feared that the new object of their tenderness might impede their attention to my future education, or whether they were unwilling to disoblige the Countess, they made but a slight opposition, and declared that they left it to me, and to my mother's decision. I was absent: the servant who came to fetch me informed me of what had passed. I entered the apartment quite prepared with my answer, and assured the Countess, that if the Lady de Tarnow, whose bounty rendered her the mistress of my fate, deigned to grant me her consent, I should deem myself happy to live under the

protection of the Countess, and would follow my inclination, as much as my duty, in earnestly endeavouring to deserve her kindness. The Countess Humiecka seemed overjoyed at my consent. " I am very glad," said she, " my dear Joujou" (for so they called me), " to see you have no reluctance to come and live with me." Then addressing the Count and Countess de Tarnow, " You cannot retract," she said, " I have your word, and that of Joujou and his mother, to whom I wrote before." The remainder of the visit passed in compliments, and our departure was fixed for the next day.

Great as were the obligations I was under to the Countess de Tarnow, yet being at that time but a child, and not having arrived at that maturity of mind, which might enable me to reflect on her benevolent disposition, I was easily reconciled to my separation from her, having my head filled with the lively picture my protectress had given me of the

pleasures I should enjoy at her house. She carried me to her estate at Rychty, in Podolia, where we stayed some time, and where she received a visit from a Pacha of Hochim, a Turkish city near Rychty. This Turkish grandee, not more eminently distinguished by his rank of Pacha, than by his amiable, polite, and affable manners, invited my benefactress to visit his palace at Hochim. I was present at his invitation, and with great pleasure heard him politely request that I might accompany the Countess, declaring that a sight of the seraglio would afford me entertainment. I went with the Countess, and on our arrival we were received with all the honours due to the rank of my protectress. As for me, I felt quite happy, and was much caressed in the palace, where they had been apprised of our coming. We were served, amongst other entertainments, with an elegant collation after the Turkish fashion, in which the sherbet was not spared. I was

highly delighted with the expectation of being admitted into the seraglio, of which I had heard the Pacha speak, but I had no idea of it at that time, my benefactress having merely told me that they were grand apartments, which contained many pretty things. How agreeably was I surprised when I beheld about twenty beautiful women, all graced with manners the most polite, and a behaviour the most tender and affectionate! Yet notwithstanding all the dazzling lustre of eastern beauty, had Mahomet, proud as he was of those enchanting females, who served him as models from whence to furnish his fictitious paradise with Houries, been fortunate enough to behold those exquisite specimens of beauty of which England, Scotland, and Ireland so justly boast, he must have bent his knee in humble acknowledgment of their superiority. I shall not enter into a particular description of the seraglio, as it exactly resembled those so often described by travel-

lers, of whom, however, none have been admitted like me by special favour within the interior apartments, the smallness of my stature having procured me this very particular honour.

Her Ladyship now determined to visit Germany, France, and other countries, and being desirous to have me with her, I felt the greatest pleasure in the flattering idea which I entertained of these travels. The requisite preparations being completed, we set out for Vienna. After a very fatiguing journey of some days, we reached the neighbourhood of Zurawno, where we stopped some months. We there saw a manufactory of gunpowder, and the lake of Zurawno, which is in length three Polish miles, and in breadth one. We observed that the boat at this lake was made very broad, and high in proportion, to prevent the vast numbers of fish which abound there from leaping into it, and oversetting it, as many accidents have

happened from their voracious disposition. This lake belongs to the great General of Lithuania, Count Oginski.

After a long and dull stay in this retired spot, we proceeded to Vienna, where the report of our arrival was no sooner spread, than we were visited, invited, and entertained with the utmost eagerness. Soon after we had the honour to be presented to her Imperial Majesty the Queen of Hungary, who was graciously pleased to say that I exceeded by far all that she had heard of me, and that I was one of the most astonishing beings she had ever seen. At that time this great Princess was engaged in a war with the King of Prussia, and by her firmness, courage, and wisdom, had rendered herself no less terrible to her enemies than dear to her subjects. I had the honour to be one day in her apartment, when her courtiers were complimenting her on a victory obtained by her army, of which every one extolled the advantage-

ous consequences, so that, according to their account, the King of Prussia was likely to be soon reduced to the last extremity. The Empress, near whom I was standing, asked me how the King of Prussia was looked upon in Poland, and what opinion I entertained of that Prince. "Madam," I answered, "I have not the honour to know him; but were I in his place, instead of losing my time in waging a useless war against you, I would come to Vienna, and pay my respects to you, deeming it a thousand times more glorious to gain your esteem and friendship, than to obtain the most complete victories over your troops." Her Majesty seemed much pleased with my reply, clasped me in her arms, and said to my benefactress, she esteemed her very happy in having so pleasing a companion in her travels. At another time when, according to her desire, I had performed a Polish dance in the presence of this Sovereign, she took me on her lap, and after hav-

ing fondly caressed me, and asked me many questions, how I spent my time, she wished to know what I found at Vienna most curious and interesting. I answered, I had seen there many things worthy of a traveller's admiration, but nothing seemed to me so extraordinary as what I beheld at this moment. "And what is that?" said her Majesty. "It is," replied I, "to see so little a man on the lap of so great a woman." This answer gained me new caresses. The Empress had on her finger a ring, upon which her cypher was set in brilliants with the most exquisite workmanship. My hand being by chance locked in hers, I happened to look upon the ring attentively, which she perceived, and asked whether the cypher was pretty. "I beg your Majesty's pardon," replied I, "it is not the ring I admire, but the hand which I beseech you give me leave to kiss;" and with these words I took it to my lips. The Empress seemed charmed at this little gallantry, and

would have presented me with the ring which had caused it; but the circle proving too wide, she called to a young Princess about six years old, took from her finger a very fine brilliant she wore, and put it on mine. This young Princess was the unfortunate Queen of France, wife of Louis XVI.

It is easy to conceive that the kind notice with which the Empress honoured me, procured me the attention of other Courts of Europe. We stayed at Vienna, to the best of my recollection, only six months, during which time, my benefactress availed herself of the opportunity of having me taught dancing by Mr. Angelini, the ballet master to the Court, who has since by his eminent talents in the art, and his taste for literature, rendered himself so famous. Being obliged to depart, I could not improve under his care so much as I wished: yet my protectress could not forbear expressing to him with raptures, her thanks for what she was pleased

to call my great progress, before we set off for Bavaria. Arriving at Munich, we were most graciously welcomed by his Electoral Highness; and it seemed I excited no less curiosity there than at Vienna. The Princess Christiana, and two other Royal Polish Princesses, who were with the Electress their sister, on account of the war between Saxony and Prussia, honoured me with their attention, and engaged me in their hunting party. During our stay, which was not long, and which presented nothing particular, we spent our time in pleasure and entertainments.

On leaving Munich, we repaired to Luneville, where Stanislaus Leszczinski, the titular King of Poland, held his Court. I could not help being filled with respect, admiration, and astonishment, at seeing this venerable Prince, who, after such an agitated life, after having undergone the most fatal reverses of fortune, still preserved, at the age of eighty years, all the faculties of his soul,

and employed them with so much energy to promote the happiness of his new subjects. I was struck with his noble aspect, his mild and affable look, his serene and dignified deportment. I immediately recollected the impression he made at first sight upon Charles the Twelfth. It is known that this extraordinary Monarch, after having conversed with him for a quarter of an hour, said to the Generals who composed his retinue, "This is the man who shall be King of Poland!" It is also known how Charles kept his word; how Stanislaus, after the disgraces of his friend, saw himself stripped of that crown to which he had aspired, only from his consciousness of the good he might do to his own country; how, when he was recalled to the throne, an adverse faction, supported by foreigners, rendered the efforts and hopes of the soundest part of the nation useless and vain. The dangers are likewise well known to which he was exposed, and the disguises

to which he was obliged to submit, in order to effect an escape from his enemies. It is known, too, that at last peace having secured him the tranquil possession of the Dukedoms of Lorraine and Bar, he carefully employed himself to make those people lose the remembrance of their ancient masters. Need I tell here all that he did for that purpose? I will only say, that his buildings at Nancy and Luneville appeared to me far superior to all that I had seen in other countries. On our arrival, this Monarch received us with that bounty and affability which gained him the affection of every heart; and being of his own country, we were by his order lodged in his palace.

With this Prince lived the famous Bebe, till then considered as the most extraordinary creature, for the smallness of his stature, that was ever seen. He possessed indeed a perfectly proportioned shape, with very pleasing features, but (I am sorry to say

it, for the honour of our species) had in his mind and way of thinking, all the defects commonly attributed to us. He was at that time about thirty, and on our being measured, it appeared that I was much less in size. At our first interview he shewed much fondness and friendship towards me; but when he perceived that I preferred the company and conversation of persons of sense to his own, and above all, when he saw that the King took pleasure in my company, he conceived a most violent jealousy, and I saw fury sparkle in his eyes. It was during my stay at Luneville, that I had the honour to cultivate an acquaintance with the celebrated Count de Tressan, who was come to reside there a little while. He took much notice of me, and it was he who made mention of me in the Encyclopædia. After having seen and admired all that King Stanislaus had done to embellish Nancy and Luneville, we took leave of this amiable Prince, who gave

my benefactress letters for the late Queen of France, his daughter, and repaired to Paris.

I need not say, that the first care of the Countess Humiecka was to go to Versailles, where, as a native of Poland, she easily obtained admittance to the Queen, to whom she delivered the letters with which the King had honoured her. This Princess, who had preserved much affection for every thing belonging to her own country, received her Ladyship most graciously. Her Majesty, being informed that I was along with my benefactress, wished to see me. She was astonished at my appearance, the smallness of which she had no idea of; and after having asked me many questions concerning the King her father, Bebe, and Poland, and our travels, she seemed pleased with my answers, and did me so much honour as to add that I was a little prodigy; that from what she had seen or been told, she had, till then, deemed the individuals of my species to be

ill-treated by nature, as much in mind and intellectual faculties as in body, but that I had undeceived her in a very advantageous and pleasing manner. After these obliging words, the Queen, addressing the Countess Humiecka, was so kind as to engage her often to repeat her visits, desiring that she would bring me with her, and gave orders to admit us whenever we desired it.

On our return to Paris, the curiosity I excited drew many visitors to my protectress, so that I became like Gulliver with his master the farmer; for in less than a week every person of high rank at court, and every person of fashion in town, waited upon her. I cannot help expressing how infinitely I was flattered by this warm enthusiasm, and by the numberless civilities with which I was honoured. The Duke of Orleans, father to him who unfortunately lost his life, having given my protectress the most elegant entertainments, evinced a particular regard for

me, and loaded me with caresses. I can even say that, during our stay at Paris, this amiable Prince did not pass a single day without giving me fresh testimonies of his politeness. The ecstacy I excited, and the frequent conversations which passed about my figure, gave rise to an incident which, had not the Queen interposed, might have proved of disagreeable consequence to the Polish ladies who travelled in France, as you will see.

It happened by chance that the Duchess of Modena, a Princess of the blood royal of France, had not been at any of the entertainments to which I had been invited. However, her Grace had heard much of me, and all that she had been told excited a strong curiosity to see me. Her rank not permitting her to pay the first visit to the Countess Humiecka, she determined to write to her, and request her company at a rout which she gave; and as I was the principal

person she desired to see, she added in the card, " especially, do not forget to bring Joujou." The Countess Humiecka, who possessed all the sentiments correspondent to her illustrious birth, and whose rank, beauty, and wealth, had drawn on her, everywhere, the most flattering distinctions, was greatly offended at such an invitation; and not thinking proper to gratify a curiosity disclosed in so awkward and impolite a manner, answered that she was very sorry she could not comply with her Grace's commands: she was engaged on that day and the following, so that she could not say when she might have the honour. The Duchess of Modena, who understood perfectly the meaning of this answer, was very much incensed, and complained of it to every one she met. She even went so far as to carry her complaints to the Queen; imagining that her Majesty, being a Polander, would blame my benefactress for it. I am inclined to believe that the Queen,

who had a great regard for persons of her own nation, inwardly thought that the Countess was right. However, wishing to settle this trifle, which she was afraid might terminate in causing some uneasiness to my benefactress, she sent for her, and engaged her to pay a visit to the Duchess of Modena. The Duchess answered, that from respect for her Majesty's orders, she would go, but certainly would not take Joujou with her; upon which, the Queen, foreseeing that such a visit might only widen the breach, dropped the conversation, and before they parted invited the Duchess to come and breakfast with her Majesty two days after, and to bring me with her. She sent afterwards another invitation to the Duchess, for the same day, without making known to either of these ladies that they were to meet. On the appointed day we waited upon the Queen, and arrived first. But what a surprise was it to us, when some minutes after, we heard the name of the

Duchess of Modena announced! This Princess, who was at first no less astonished than the Countess, came, however, to herself very soon; and after she had paid her duty to the Queen, she and the Countess saluted each other with the usual compliments, and, as if nothing had happened, reciprocally declared the pleasure they had in seeing, and the desire they felt to know, each other. The Duchess even went so far as not to take notice of me for some minutes; but soon banishing this constraint, the caresses, praises, and attentions of this respectable old Princess proved how great was her enthusiasm.

We continued to be visited and entertained by the most considerable amongst the nobility and financiers. The celebrated Mr. Bouret especially, who was Farmer General, gave an entertainment, in which, to show that it was given for my sake, he caused every thing, even the plates, spoons, knives, and forks to be proportioned to my size; and the

eatables, consisting of ortolans, becaficos, and other small game of that kind, to be served upon dishes suitable to them. We spent, in this agreeable manner, more than a year at Paris, enjoying all the pleasures which that capital offers to foreigners: and the lively humour, the cheerfulness, and politeness of its inhabitants, made our stay delightful.

CHAP. II.

Departure from Paris for Holland; description of that country—Arrival at the Hague; polite attention of the Stadtholder—Journey through Germany to Poland; arrival at Warsaw, and reception there—Gracious offer of King Stanislaus II. to bestow an estate upon me—My affection for Isalina; consequent displeasure of the Countess Humiecka, who dismisses me—Kindness of Prince Cassimir—The King grants me a pension—My marriage with Isalina—Pecuniary difficulties oblige me to leave Warsaw—Return to Vienna—Journey through Hungary and part of Turkey.

The time at length came, when we were obliged to leave Paris, from whence we set off for Holland. Every body knows how the soul of a traveller is impressed by the novelty of the scenes which this country affords. It was then the month of May, a season in

which the country presents the most agreeable appearance; and I was struck with it in so lively a manner, that, notwithstanding the sameness so justly complained of, I cannot recal to my mind, without emotion, the sensations I then felt. Were I to enter into the particulars of the polite reception we met with, I should but repeat what I have said in my former book: I shall therefore only observe, that when we arrived at the Hague, the Countess Humiecka was received in the most affable and polite manner by his Highness the Prince Stadtholder and his family, who did their utmost to make her stay agreeable. We, however, formed but few acquaintances there; and not being able to stay long in Holland, we employed ourselves in viewing the curiosities with which this country abounds; and at last, after having taken leave of the Stadtholder, my benefactress directed her route through Germany, and we reached Warsaw. My return to my native country made much

noise. I had not yet been seen in the capital, but was preceded by the reputation I had acquired in my travels, for which I was indebted to the generous care of my benefactress. Besides, I had improved much during my stay in foreign countries; and as my residence at Paris had given me somewhat of that easy politeness, and those graceful manners, which set off the most trifling discourse, I was so happy as to perceive, that many persons, by whom I was at first looked upon as an object of mere curiosity, now wished for my society, because they took pleasure in my conversation. Emboldened by this notice, I went oftener to assemblies than I had hitherto done; and wishing to enlarge the circle of my acquaintance, I cultivated an intimacy with some young gentlemen of my own age, whose company seemed to me more gay and interesting than that of those persons who were in the habit of frequenting the Countess Humiecka's house. I had inspired my pro-

tectress with confidence enough, to induce her to allow me a reasonable degree of liberty; and I availed myself of it, by going frequently to the play, of which I had always been an admirer. The new sensations which began to rise in my breast, were now increased by the intemperate life of my young friends, who, yielding to the dictates of that indiscretion natural to their age, indulged without scruple the impulses of their lively imaginations. But my benefactress, who was not ignorant of this affair, sent to me a very wise and sensible man, in whom I had the greatest confidence. He strongly remonstrated with me on the irregularity of my behaviour, and set forth the fatal consequences into which I was likely to be hurried. His observations affected me: I promised never more to frequent the company of these young men, whose bad example had seduced me; and by the regularity of my conduct, I soon regained the kindness of the Countess, and the plea-

sure of her society. I had no occasion to repent the change: my life became quieter and more happy, and I now began to perceive the emptiness of those pleasures, which I had enjoyed in the society of my last companions.

At that time Warsaw was the scene of rejoicings and amusements. Stanislaus the Second had lately ascended the throne of Poland. This Prince (on whose virtues and accomplishments I need not expatiate, as they are known to all who had the honour of approaching him, either as a king or as a private man) was applying himself to retrieve those innumerable calamities, which a series of troubles and agitations had occasioned. By his patronage the arts and sciences were flourishing, and he gained by his goodness the affections of his greatest Lords, who flocked round his person, to evince their attachment. In the midst of these rejoicings his Majesty came to supper on Twelfth Night, with the Princess Lubomirska, where I was

invited by the Countess Humiecka. The cake being opened, I was chosen king, and had the honour to enter into conversation with his Majesty, when I entreated his permission to lay aside, in his presence, the prerogative of my newly-attained royalty. This proposition from me afforded great diversion to the King, who turned to the Countess, and deigned to signify that my behaviour gave him much pleasure, and said he was inclined, as a mark of his royal favour, to bestow an estate upon me. But my protectress's countenance too plainly bespoke her disapprobation of his generous offer, to admit of its being carried into effect. In this state of tranquillity my days glided away, and I thought that no kind of vexation could disturb so happy a life. I was then very far from foreseeing, that those delicate and tender sentiments, upon which was grounded my expectation of future felicity, would one day be the cause of disquietude and bitterness of

heart, and would throw so heavy a cloud over my existence.

I am now entering into the particulars of those events, which I shall always regard as the most interesting epoch of my life. Those moments, which became fraught with new ideas, new desires, and pleasures far different from those I had hitherto known, brought likewise new troubles and new difficulties, to which I had never thought I should be exposed. The Countess Humiecka's bounty seemed likely for ever to secure me from want, as her Ladyship's favour had drawn on me the consideration and regard, not only of every person in her house, but even of all the people of quality that composed her society. I did not foresee the probability of ever being deprived of her friendship, nor did I feel in my heart the fear of ever becoming unworthy of it. I was caressed, fondled, and cherished. Nothing was wanting to my happiness; and I enjoyed it with so much the more security,

as I had experienced no reverses, and foolishly thought I should never have any to endure; as reason and good advice had brought me back to steady conduct and more quiet sentiments. But I knew not my own heart, and all those fine expectations vanished, from the moment I beheld a young female whom my benefactress had taken into her house.

The Countess Humiecka had consulted only her own gratification when she took Isalina, for that was her name; and this young lady possessed all the requisites to interest and please. Let me be excused from describing what she appeared in my eyes. Such as regard only personal appearance in the choice of their wedded partners, know very little of the human heart. To enable them to live happily together, and to have for each other that mutual esteem which alone can confer such happiness, more lasting qualities are requisite. I still know how to set a proper value on those advantages so much sought

after, though they are only gifts which Nature blindly distributes; and I must own, there is a personal beauty, which discloses that of the soul; and when we meet with those tender, sweet, and lively countenances, which, being strangers to dissimulation and deceit, exhibit in their features the emotions they feel, and the impressions they receive, we must acknowledge, at the very first moment, that persons so happily endowed are worthy of all our attachment. It is among women especially, that this inestimable quality is to be found, which so advantageously sets off their charms. They possess it, notwithstanding all the obstacles that are opposed to it, though the aim of their education incessantly be to instruct them how to dissemble their sentiments, and conceal their natural affections. Perhaps at some future time, parents may have resolution and wisdom enough to overcome this prejudice in training up their children. I see the evil; but I know not the remedy, or rather, have not the courage to suggest it.

Such as I have described, was the young Isalina's beauty; which struck me at first sight, and subdued my heart. But if the impression of the moment was deep and indelible, conceive what new force must have been given to my feelings, when, by living in the same house, I had daily opportunities of seeing her, and of enjoying the pleasure of her lively conversation! I discovered in her a never-failing vivacity, and those amiable dispositions which plainly bespoke a feeling heart.

From this time my happiness was inseparably united with that of Isalina. I perceived in her all the symptoms of a mutual affection; and, proud of the love with which I was conscious she regarded me, (though numberless obstacles to my happiness presented themselves to my view,) I determined not to give up my enterprize. The ardour of my affection was, however, tempered with the respect and diffidence which are inseparable from a

a sincere attachment. I had made an impression on the tender heart of Isalina: and indeed, how could I fail, my love being guided by sincerity, and want of fortune in the lady proving my disinterestedness? But these raptures were soon interrupted by the Countess. She was fully informed of, and saw with concern, my affection for Isalina, and was determined to use her utmost endeavours to frustrate our intentions. She sent Isalina immediately to her parents, and at the same time kept me in my room for a whole fortnight. Having thus confined me, she discharged my footman, and put another in his place, on whom she thought she could rely: but, contrary to her expectation, he was entirely at my disposal; for by his means I established a correspondence with my Isalina.

Cagliostro, at the instigation of the Countess, came to me a few days after, and earnestly solicited me to appease my benefactress, by renouncing Isalina. Without the

least hesitation I boldly protested, I would sooner part with my life. The Countess Humiecka, perceiving me determined, became furious; and, setting me at liberty, declared I had only to choose either to renounce my love for Isalina, or to quit her house immediately. I preferred the latter alternative, as will be seen in the two following letters to Isalina; and these are the only ones of our whole correspondence, with which I shall trouble my readers.

"JOUJOU TO ISALINA.

"My captivity, my charming friend, is now at an end. I have sacrificed all for your sake; and if I lose you, I will renounce, yes, I will renounce life itself. This morning one of the principal officers of the house came with a message from the Countess, to inform me, that if I had not changed my resolution, I must leave the house for ever. That is not possible, I answered; but, reflecting on what conditions alone I could remain, I calmly added, I was ready to depart; but I entreated he would tell my benefactress, how sincerely I was affected at incurring her resentment; and I besought her to pardon my opposition to her will, to which nothing could have urged me, but the

dread of forfeiting all my happiness; and that the kindness, with which she had formerly treated me, should never be erased from my memory. I was now at large; but, on beholding the house where I had so long been the darling, I burst into tears. How painful a situation to a heart like mine, which, while plunged in affliction, bore the reproach of ingratitude for only obeying the impulse of true love! I knew not whither to direct my course, pennyless, a forlorn wanderer: my situation was dreadful. Love alone could support me under it. Yes, love inspired me to address myself to Prince Casimir, the King's brother, whose affability and gentle manners you are well acquainted with. You are not ignorant, how much he interested himself in all that concerned me. I was not deceived in my expectation; he knew every thing except my departure, at which he was much surprised. 'Make yourself easy, Joujou,' said he, 'you shall not want, I will never forsake you: come and see me soon: I will importune the King in your behalf; you know he loves you, and I am sure he will protect you.' These kind expressions have animated my drooping spirits. Dear Isalina, be kind, and we shall yet be happy, but permit me to see you—to speak to you—and to repeat to you, a thousand and a thousand times, with my last breath, that you are all my happiness, the delight of the faithful and tender

JOUJOU."

Soon after I had thus addressed my dear

Isalina, the Prince sent for me, and in the most condescending manner gave me his advice. I wrote as follows :—

JOUJOU TO ISALINA.

" The Prince sent for me this morning, my charming friend. How can I express to you my grateful sentiments for his numerous favours! He asked me if I would return to the Countess Humiecka, and he would use all his influence to soften her; or, if I were resolved to marry my dear Isalina: so he expressed himself. I answered him, that I was exceedingly sorry to have forfeited the protection of the Countess, but that my heart could never subscribe to her hard conditions. 'Obtain, then, the mother's consent,' replied this amiable Prince, 'and all will yet be well.' You see, my lovely friend, they think your sentiments sympathize with mine. I durst not acknowledge I had not your consent: that would have spoiled all. Can you refuse it me, my kind Isalina? Can you harbour a thought that would destroy the man who adores you? I am to be presented to his Majesty; he has promised his illustrious brother to provide for me. Thus all our anxieties for subsistence cease. I expect a pension. Now my charmer, Isalina, I go to kneel at your mother's feet: she will yield to my supplication, seeing me so well protected. All my happiness is concentrated in my Isalina's tenderness: but consider, that the least indifference, the

least delay, may destroy for ever the happiness of your tender and affectionate

JOUJOU."

I waited upon Isalina's mother, whose consent I obtained. I saw my fair friend again; a friend whose inexhaustible fund of gaiety formed so happy a contrast to my present temper, that I soon buried in oblivion all the vexations I had endured. The amiable Prince Casimir kept his word: he was so kind as to present me to his brother the King, who approved of my marriage, and granted me a pension of a hundred ducats. The Nuncio, who had been misinformed, wanted to prevent it by a ridiculous pretext of the Countess Humiecka. But the King prevailed over this obstacle; and some time after, the performance of the ceremony broke all the barriers that had been opposed to my felicity. It is true, that I have sacrificed to this happiness, ease and tranquillity; it has been to me the source of a thousand inquietudes, re-

specting the subsistence of Isalina and myself for the future. Yet the enjoyment that I have derived from it, has taught me that nothing in this world is preferable to the satisfaction of pouring our inquietudes, our distresses, and our fears, into the bosom of a friend so true, so dear, and so closely united; whose tender and feeling soul relieves our pains by sharing them, and enlivens our pleasures with a far greater delight.

I should have been too happy in my new state, if it had been possible that, minding only the present, I could have abstained from casting an eye on the future. But man is not formed for a pure and perfect felicity: disquietudes poison his enjoyments, and it but too often happens, that from these very enjoyments arise his disquietudes.

Notwithstanding my inexperience, I soon perceived that the King's favours would hardly be sufficient for our maintenance; and my susceptible mind, severely anticipa-

ting the necessities to which my Isalina must submit, the liveliness of my feeling towards her still increased the bitterness and horror of my reflections. Although accustomed to the luxury and magnificence, which had surrounded us in the house of my benefactress, yet without grief, and even with a degree of pleasure, we should have embraced a middle station of life; the only one, perhaps, which gives to the tender and delicate sentiments their full scope and energy. But the question was not respecting a mode of living more or less expensive, as we were likely to want even necessaries; and I confess, that the idea of seeing my beloved Isalina involved in misery, did not permit me long to enjoy the happiness of possessing her. It was necessary to take some step; but my choice was so much the more difficult, in my having received no other education than that which the Countess Humiecka had bestowed on me. I possessed, at most, a few agreeable talents,

which could not now afford me any sufficient resource.

In this perplexity my protectors were the first who suggested to me the idea of a second journey. Prince Casimir, especially, recommended this project. He intimated to me, that, having been kindly received in the principal Courts of Europe, when I accompanied the Countess Humiecka, I should be again received with the same pleasure; and when it should be known that I was without fortune, my situation would increase the interest I had inspired, and in a creditable manner procure me the means of leading, at my return, a peaceful and tranquil life. I consented to this scheme; I spoke of it to the King, who not only approved of my plan, but, wishing to grant me a particular testimony of his bounty, ordered the Master of the Horse to supply me with a convenient coach. Having, therefore, taken all necessary measures, and being provided with letters of re-

commendation, I left Warsaw, and reached Vienna.

Unluckily for me, death had, just before, deprived the world of the illustrious Maria Theresa. Mourning and sorrow, in consequence, pervaded this capital: the deepest grief was impressed upon all hearts. Public entertainments, and even concerts, were suspended. They talked of nothing, but of the loss that had befallen them: they spoke of the magnanimity with which this heroine had supported adversity. They recollected those disastrous times, when, forced to leave her residence, and, holding her son in her arms, she had excited amongst the Hungarians that patriotic ferment, which had impelled them to do so much for her sake. Whilst they expatiated, with complacency, upon the means she employed to re-establish her affairs, and upon the glorious treaty which had put an end to a war, threatening her, in its origin, with total destruction. On the other hand,

with new regret they enumerated the pains she had since taken, and the care she had bestowed, to restore such of her provinces as had been desolated by war, and to render most advantageous to her subjects, the peace she had procured for them.

In the midst of this general mourning, I renewed my acquaintance with most of the noblemen I had had the honour to see in my former travels. I may even venture to say, that his Excellency the Prince de Kaunitz received my visit with every mark of pleasure. As at that time his Imperial Majesty, Joseph the Second, held no Court, all the nobility assembled every evening in the Prince's hotel, where his relation, the Countess Clarissa, received his guests. He did me so much honour, as to present me to this assembly, and engage me to come often and spend the evening. There I had the honour to become acquainted with his Excellency Sir Robert Murray Keith, the British Ambassa-

dor, who was afterwards the principal cause of my coming to England. There also I had occasion to be convinced, that the manifold occupations of the Prince de Kaunitz, (the burden of which was lightened by his superior talent, so well known to every one, of comprehending at one view the most extensive and complicated affairs) did not hinder him from looking on the minutest objects, the least worthy affixing his attention. For, having sent for the measure of my size, which he had taken care to procure when I was at Vienna in the year 1761, with the Countess Humiecka, he shewed to us, that from that time to 1781 I had grown upwards of ten inches; which appeared as surprising to those who, not having seen me before, could not conceive how I, being at that moment hardly in size like a child, could have ever been ten inches shorter; as to those who having seen me twenty years before, thought they observed in me as much difference as there is

between a youth of twelve and a grown man of thirty.

Notwithstanding these flattering appearances, and the professions of friendship I received, my journey did not answer my intended purpose. My chances of success were grounded upon a concert; and though I was obliged to wait till the mourning was over, I had, in addition to this, other difficulties to overcome. A number of performers were inscribed on the catalogue at the Royal theatre; and if I had been obliged to wait for my turn, I must have been kept a great while back. Happily for me, my friend, Mr. Gunter, Secretary to his Imperial Majesty, so earnestly pressed Mr. Dorval, the manager of the house, that I was preferred before the others; and they were even so kind, as to take the management for me, and to conduct the concert and the expences. I was so fortunate as to be honoured with a numerous assembly, almost all the nobility

being present. I attempted, in a short speech, to express to them my gratitude: I wished likewise to make an apology before those noblemen who, twenty years ago, having seen me surrounded with the *eclât* of greatness, now beheld me reduced to the sad necessity of appearing in public, and exhibiting a reverse of fortune, in some degree resembling that of Belisarius. I was at that time very far from thinking, that, through a necessity of providing for the most essential wants of life, I should ever be obliged to expose myself to public view for money.

Next day the Prince de Kaunitz spoke to me, in a most polite manner, amidst a crowded levee. His Excellency, Sir Robert Murray Keith, was present: he prevailed upon me to go over to England in preference to France, which was the country I intended first to have visited. The Prince seconded this advice, and earnestly desired the Ambassador to interest himself for me. His

Excellency promised me letters of recommendation to the greatest personages at the British court, for which the Prince made him an acknowledgment, and assured him he would seek every opportunity to shew him how sensible he was of all that was done for his little friend.

If all those reasons did not entirely prevail, they had at least some influence upon me ; and I resolved to leave Vienna, being supplied with letters of recommendation to many Princes of Germany, and to the courts of other kingdoms. But I previously made a journey to Presburg in Hungary. To defray the expences of this tour, I staid there only so long as was necessary, in order to give a concert ; and from thence I went to Bucharest, Wallachia, Bender, Belgrade, Adrianople, and other places which I wished to see.

I must not forget to mention the kind welcome I met with in Turkish countries ;

and from all the observations I could possibly make upon the people, I remarked that they are not so bad in the principles of their minds as has often been reported of them. In this respect indeed, they seemed to me far superior to the Arabians, whose country I also visited. These I found to be susceptible of passions no otherwise than as brute animals. A traveller's life is in danger, in passing through those countries, where the government is unsettled, and the inhabitants are continually at war among themselves.

When I had nearly reached the Persian Gulf, I was attacked by illness, which prevented me from pursuing my journey. I then determined to return by the nearest way, and pass the deserts of Arabia, not far from the famous river Euphrates. Having traversed these and the deserts of Syria, I arrived, after a long and fatiguing journey, at the city of Damascus, where illness increased so much as to confine me for a month

to my bed. I had the good fortune there to meet with a Jew, a physician by profession, who kindly attended me, and by his skill succeeded in restoring my health. He was a most worthy man, and belonged to the sect of the Essenes, who formed a respectable society, and avoided the dissolute morals and profane principles of the Sadducees. The origin of the tenets maintained by the latter, who, as is well known, reject the doctrine of the soul's immortality, may, in my opinion, be with some degree of probability referred to that remote period, when the Israelites set up and worshipped the molten calf. Hence sprung the various weeds of heresy and infidelity, which clung to the true religion as ivy clings to the rock, without being able to destroy it. I shall pass over them without further description, in order to afford space for enlarging on subjects which merit more particular notice.

CHAP. III.

Description of the city of Astrachan—Journey through Oremburg and Simbirsk to Kazan—Description of Kazan; kindness of the Governor and his lady—Journey to Lapland and Finland—Arrival at and description of Archangel—Voyage to Nova Zembla; savage state of the natives—Journey to Berezowa; hospitality of its inhabitants—Arrival at Tobolsk in Siberia, and reception there; generous behaviour of the Governor.

Amongst other places which I at this time visited, was Astrachan, the principal city of Asiatic Russia, which is situated at the mouth of the Volga. It has a fortress, and the city is surrounded with strong walls. It contains, as far as I recollect, churches, as well of the the Russian as of other persuasions, of which my limits will not admit a detailed account.

There are two commercial halls, for the reception and sale of merchandize. Both these buildings are in a beautiful style of architecture. But what I found most worthy of attention, was a large botanical garden, and chemical laboratory, where they prepare salts extracted from plants, as the bitter salt of Astrachan; also the juice of liquorice, and distilled waters. I have been told, that every apothecary's shop throughout the empire belongs to the Emperor; and they get from this place every medicinal plant. The apothecaries established here, supply all Russia with liquorice juice and Glauber's salts; and being not far distant from Persia, they are of course able to procure curious simples from thence, at a cheap rate.

I found the city of Astrachan, and the industry of its inhabitants, so interesting, and so deserving the attention of a curious traveller, that I was encouraged to take a trip further, both to acquire a more extensive know-

ledge of the world; and, if possible, to secure a little income for the enjoyment of a quiet life. Supported under my unfortunate situation, by these objects which I had in view, I willingly submitted myself to the caprice of fortune. Accordingly, being provided with letters of recommendation, I set out for Kazan; at which place I arrived, after passing through Oremburg and Simbirsk. It is esteemed a rich and considerable city. But, to the best of my recollection, the appearance of the houses, ramparts, and towers, which are all built of wood, gave me the idea of its being a poor town. It has, however, a castle built of stone, and is excellently situated, being watered by the rivers Volga and Kama, which make the land extremely fertile; so that it is enabled to enrich all the provinces by means of its commerce. This metropolitan city contains a great number of churches and monasteries.

Perceiving that the place afforded me the

prospect of a good benefit, I began to employ my time in arranging the preparation for a concert. I consequently delivered my letters of recommendation, directed to Basil Wasilowich, governor of Kazan, who received me with the greatest politeness. His lady, Mrs. Wasilowich, being so kind as to offer me apartments in their palace, I spent some weeks with that amiable couple, in the most agreeable manner; being provided, by their bounty, with all the pleasure and luxuries of life. My concert, favoured with the patronage of such great and generous personages, more than answered my most sanguine expectations. I perceived with some surprise, that the amiable governor and his lady took the warmest interest in my concerns; conjecturing, perhaps, from my manners and conversation, that some accident had reduced me to the necessity of travelling, and probably pleased to find my mind so perfectly tranquil, and prepared to en-

counter all hazards, and to endure whatever misfortunes might befal me.

The governor generously wishing to keep me out of the way of danger, proposed to recommend me to the court of Petersburgh. His kind offer brought to my recollection the gracious reception, and caresses, with which I had been honoured by the illustrious Princess of Danhalt, during my stay at Paris with the Countess Humiecka; and I was sensible that I could not fail of being well received by an introduction from this Princess, who was mother of Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia. But I was not without apprehensions, that Baron de Stachelberg, the Ambassador from the Court of Petersburgh, who had been resident at Warsaw, whilst I was under the protection of the Countess Humiecka, and through the influence of political affairs had contracted a particular intimacy with herself and her family, might, on account of circumstances

which I have before related, connected with the displeasure which that lady had conceived, create some prejudice against me at the Russian court: I therefore judged it most prudent to decline the governor's offer.

I now formed a project of visiting Finland, and the neighbouring country, which the governor was far from approving, as he was desirous that I should return to the more civilized parts of the world. He gave me, however, a letter of recommendation to the governor of Tobolsk, but would not second my design any further. Notwithstanding this, I set out in the first place for Finland, and after passing through Kostroma and Ousting, I arrived at Abo, the metropolis of that country. This city could not have been more advantageously situated in regard to commerce, being surrounded by the gulfs of Bothnia and Finland, which both form most commodious harbours; and I have no doubt it carries on an extensive trade.

In every other respect it seemed to me a most miserable city, exhibiting, with its wooden houses painted in imitation of brick, a very beggarly appearance. Its inhabitants I found totally destitute of spirit, and cold as the climate in which they live.

As there was no probability of my deriving any profit from this place, I soon left it, and proceeded to Lapland, where I found my situation by no means improved; but was convinced, that I could expect no benefit from a people so destitute, and a country so wild and remote from all intercourse with the rest of the world. I felt myself, however, endued with courage, which bore me up against the stream of misfortune, and was protected by a gracious Providence from those dangers to which I had exposed myself, by imprudently venturing, like an inexperienced traveller, among the savages who inhabit this country.

I was far from meeting a rude reception

from these people : on the contrary, I perceived that they regarded me with mixed surprise and pleasure, which induced them to pay me the most civil attentions. They shewed great zeal, in procuring me the best table their country could afford, with which I had every reason to be satisfied, as they have abundance of excellent game, and fish of every description. This last article their situation enables them to get with the greatest ease, as they are almost surrounded by seas—on the north by the Arctic Ocean, and on the east and south by the White Sea : accordingly, they have immense quantities of all kinds, and of the best quality. The gulf of Bothnia abounds with salmon ; and from their mountains descend vast rivers of fresh water, in which I beheld those fishes swimming against the stream. I also saw in their lakes, pikes of a wonderful size : so that I could not avoid remarking how plentifully all their wants were supplied, and how much

more bountiful nature had been to them than to those inhabitants of Scandinavia, who are obliged to supply with a kind of saw dust, and preparation of fish bones, their want of bread.

I now prepared to quit this part of the globe, to me so unproductive, and reached Terrskoi, an inland town of Russian Lapland. Finding myself now at no great distance from the celebrated city of Archangel, I determined to visit it, which resolution I put in practice.

Had I travelled only for the purpose of furnishing descriptions, I should have thought myself bound to give my readers a particular account of Archangel; but as that consideration did not enter into my plan, I must content myself with merely noticing the neatness of the houses, which are of modern architecture, and that noble edifice called the Hall. This building, if my recollection be correct, is divided into three parts, in one of which

the Russian and foreign merchants have their apartments. I had the honour of an invitation to dine with them; and was particularly noticed by Mr. Weldefriz, a distant relation to the minister of the same name, from the Danish Court at Paris, with whom I had been intimate during my stay at that capital, with the Countess Humiecka. This gentleman, finding who I was, paid me the kindest attention, and shewed me the whole of this remarkable building, which is very beautiful and commodious, having a square belonging to it, adjacent to the river, where vessels approach, to load and unload their merchandise.

Archangel is admirably situated for trade, having on the east the famous river Dwina, which falls into the White Sea. This advantageous position has afforded its inhabitants an opportunity, by the exertion of their industry, to enrich their country. Thus are a vast body of men prevented from sinking

into a torpid and indolent state of existence, like that of the ignorant Laplanders, who can neither benefit the world at large, nor even promote the interests of a solitary traveller like myself. There I might soon have found myself without a single resource to supply my wants, had I not been fortunate enough to reach Archangel, where my happiness was increased by my acquaintance with Mr. Weldefriz, who proved the benevolence of his heart, by procuring me a lucrative concert. This put me in excellent spirits, and I felt a desire to visit the desolate country of Nova-Zembla, which is upwards of six hundred miles distant by sea from Archangel. Mr. Weldefriz did not approve of this voyage, and gave me to understand, that no concert could be given there ; but finding me quite determined, and having some business there himself, he kindly offered to take charge of me.

We sailed together over the White Sea,

and landed safely at Nova-Zembla. I afterwards regretted that I had not listened to the advice of my friend Mr. Weldefriz, as I found it was vain to expect any kind of benefit, and perceived no objects that could gratify the eye of a traveller. The whole country presented the appearance of desolation and distress; for which, however, we ought not to blame nature, which is always perfect in her operations, when not prevented by accident from carrying them into effect. But here her noble principles had been quite destroyed, and this unfortunate corner of the globe presented the most dismal appearance. Indeed, it seems as if one might justly conclude that an island so forlorn as Nova-Zembla, can be but of little use to the world; especially when we remark that the animal kingdom alone subsists in it, as neither vegetables nor minerals are to be found. The natives are chiefly savages, and, as might naturally be expected, rude as their native

climate. Their size is in general diminutive, and their strength may be easily managed. The following circumstance introduced me to their acquaintance.

It happened that I was travelling with my friend Mr. Weldefriz, in a sledge, to visit some mountains of a prodigious height, which seem to hang in the air, and cannot be looked upon without horror; and which are inhabited by beasts of a monstrous size. At this time the savages were hunting these animals for the sake of their skins; with which, as they have no money in that country, they pay their taxes to the Emperor of Russia. I was perceived by some of them, who approached and viewed me with such looks of surprise, that I doubt not I became the principal topic of their conversation. The third day after this, they surrounded our house in great numbers, and dispatched a messenger to inform us, that if I did not come out and see them, they would pull down the whole house.

The mode of their request was suitable enough to the disposition of these savages; whose example serves to convince us, that nature on her part has done every thing in producing the human body, giving it a perfect shape, and endowing man with an understanding superior to all other animals; but that, when education is not employed to improve that understanding, the human race sinks nearly to a level with the brute creation, being actuated by no principle but that of satisfying its own desires.

In order to prevent the mischief these savages intended me, I made my appearance before them. I was probably indebted for my safety to the smallness of my size. As soon as their astonishment had ceased, I observed that they assumed a singular posture, and lifted up their hands and eyes to the sky, as if in worship of the sun. My curiosity induced me to ask the reason of this behaviour. My question was put in the Polish

tongue, which is similar to the Russian; and they answered me in the same language with great calmness, that they were giving thanks to the sun for allowing them to find such a man as me, as they had seen many people of various sizes, but never beheld any thing like mine.

This flattering compliment well merited the return I hastened to make them, of my kindest and most grateful thanks, for the civil reception I had so unexpectedly met with. I at the same time proceeded, for their amusement, to play some tunes on my guitar, with which they were highly delighted, having never before heard or seen that instrument. I pleased them so much, that I think I may flatter myself I won their hearts, and inspired them with some degree of enthusiasm towards me, which they expressed by desiring that I would not leave them. Savages as they were, so feeling a heart atoned for many defects.

As soon as my friend Weldefriz had settled his own affairs, we prepared for our departure; when these generous savages presented us with a most beautiful fur of sable, and we took leave of each other in the most friendly manner possible. We set sail, and passed the Straits of Nova-Zembla; by which name I shall call that narrow passage, the proper appellation of which has escaped my memory, so that my readers in this particular must not rely upon me. My recollection, however, enables me to state that the traveller has on one side the sea of Karskoe, and on the other the gulf of Lebeskaya. We passed between those seas, and arrived on shore in a few hours.

Next day my friend set out with me, and conducted me as far as Berezowa, where we had the pleasure to find the people much more hospitable to strangers than we had expected. We stopped a few days at their request, during which time we enjoyed every

comfort: they furnished our table with all sorts of game, and with young rein deer, which make a delighful dish. They not only procured us an excellent table, but were so kind as to entertain us with their pleasant company, and to favour us with some music upon an instrument of their own, called Bandura, a good deal like the guitar, with which we were much gratified. I then surprised these good people, who were not aware of my being able to perform, by ordering my servant to bring my guitar. The whole company were astonished on my opening it; and I began to play some of my own music, which having all the charms of novelty, seemed to excite their admiration. The day after this we took our departure, and I now experienced the double regret of quitting these generous people, from whom I had received so many civilities, and my kind friend Mr. Weldefriz.

On my arrival at Tobolsk, my first care

was to deliver my letters of recommendation to the Lord Chief Governor of Siberia, whose military is equal to his civil authority. I found in this city, which is amazingly well fortified, a powerful garrison. I concluded therefore, that a concert among so great a number of officers would fully answer my expectations. Upon the inhabitants of the city I could place but little reliance, being composed chiefly of Mahometan Tartars, and others, whom it will be no great loss to my readers to leave unmentioned; whose sole pleasure consisted in trading up the river Irtish, which they did to a considerable extent, and in conveying merchandize through Great Tartary to China: so that the fruits of my sowing on such a barren land, were likely to be little better than a crop of nettles. I consequently directed my attentions to the governor, who sent me a polite invitation to dine with him.

At this dinner I found a most brilliant

company, and met many distinguished officers. A great many ladies were present, who supported the character of their amiable sex, by reviving the spirit of the company, and giving new life to the agreeable conversation. I soon found that I had become the leading topic of their discourse: my small size had probably attracted their attention, and excited a curiosity to hear me converse. They accordingly put several questions to me, merely, as I imagine, with a view of learning what answer I could make. Among my questioners was a lady, the most beautiful of the whole assembly. She asked me what motives could have tempted me to travel so far, and induced me to visit a country so desolate and destitute of comfort as Siberia, where nothing was to be seen and felt but snow and extreme frost. "Excuse me, Madam," I replied, "the dangers and fatigues of my travels are amply rewarded, by what I now behold; for even the frozen regions of

Siberia have not prevented nature from presenting to my view so elegant a specimen of her workmanship as yourself." The governor, enchanted with my reply, declared to me that she was his daughter; and this lucky little incident increased the kindness of the reception I met with from the whole company.

The next day I received from the governor's daughter an invitation to dine with her and her father, which it was impossible for me to refuse. The governor took this opportunity of inquiring very kindly after my concerns. I frankly informed him, that having no settled provision to which I could look forward, I was thrown upon the world, and left entirely without any resources; and that such being my disastrous situation, I begged that he would patronise my concert. This he promised to do; and through the warm interest and active exertions of the governor, his lady, and his daughter, my

concert was attended by a most brilliant company, and as productive as I could possibly desire from the city of Tobolsk.

As I had now settled all my affairs, and had nothing more to do in that place, I was preparing to leave it. But my departure was delayed for some time by a circumstance, of which, when my reader shall be apprised, he will, I am sure, approve the conduct I adopted. That amiable lady, the governor's daughter, considered, probably, that performers in my way generally look only to their own interest; and forgetting immediately the generous benefactors who have promoted their advantage, leave them without concern in search of new ones. To prevent, therefore, my following such examples, she sent me a note to inform me, by desire of her father and mother, that they begged I would not think of leaving the town so soon: at the end of the note she added, that for her own part, she flattered herself, I would not think

of disobliging her by refusing to comply with the request. To this I replied: "As I have already, Madam, experienced your goodness, and witnessed the kind concern you take in my welfare, you could not surely think that I would disobey your order. Sooner will I forget myself. Severe as the misfortunes are which have befallen me, and impelled me to seek my fortune in foreign climates, they can never obliterate the feelings of gratitude which I cherish for your bounty, and which I trust will accompany me to the grave."

This answer opened a door to their friendship: they immediately came, and took me to dine with them. My time was most agreeably spent in their society. After dinner, the governor's daughter, who was an admirable performer, sent for my instrument, on which I accompanied her. Soon after, a number of their friends came to spend the evening with them. It began at last to grow late, and I

was preparing to go home, but was prevented by the young lady, who desired me to wait until the company should be gone. When all retired, she said: "Now, allow me to accompany you to your lodging." "You are right," added the governor and his lady, "and we will go together." I desired they would not give themselves so needless a trouble; but the more I entreated them, the more delighted were they to perceive that I had not discovered their intention, of which I remained totally ignorant until I found myself in a charming apartment of their noble mansion, which they had destined for my abode. As soon as I had recovered from the astonishment into which I was thrown by this most courteous attention, which the politest nation could not have surpassed, I returned them my warmest thanks for their kindness; which in my present situation I had the less reason to expect, as I had suppressed my real name, influenced by a feeling of pride which

forbade me to proclaim it under the humiliating circumstances in which I was there placed. Thus did I suddenly find myself fixed in their palace, where I was most kindly cherished; and I received every attention from this respectable family, whose friendship each succeeding day seemed to increase. My joy was, however, embittered by the thought, that the time was fast approaching when I must depart, never again to behold them, and when I should have no other consolation for their loss, but the recollection of the kindness they had shown me.

CHAP. IV.

Departure from Tobolsk—Journey to Kamschatka; arrival at Bolcheretskoi the capital—Description of the Volcanos—Journey to Behring's Straits; view of the Frozen Ocean—Desolate state of the country, and miserable existence of the natives—Arrival at Olensk; improved appearance of the country—Visit to the city of Catherineburg, politeness and liberality of the Director of the Siberian mines—Description of the country around—Remarkable incidents.

I was at length obliged to pursue my journey; and leaving Tobolsk, I set out for Kamschatka, passing through Narym, Nasunowskoi, Hinskoi, Witemk, Oloskoi, and Tewskoi, which are situated near the sea of the peninsula of Kamschatka. On my arrival at Bolcheretskoi, the metropolis of the whole country, I thought I had found a second

Nova-Zembla: but here I met with the additional evil of three volcanos, which I did not fail to visit. The first to the best of my recollection, named Awatska, lies to the north of a bay of the same name; the second rises from the mountains between the rivers of Kamschatka and Tobolski. I here met with a gentleman who made particular enquiries after me; but not being satisfied with the information he received, he politely approached and thus accosted me: "You are welcome to us, my little gentleman; you seem to be examining this volcano very closely,—pray let me know, have you found out its cause?"

This was a question too deep for my understanding. But it immediately struck me, that curiosity alone, and the expectation of hearing some reply, had induced him to ask it; and as I happened to recollect the literary boldness of my friend, Count de Tressan, the celebrated writer, who in some of his

works had introduced a most curious circumstance of a tree having been found growing in the stomach of a human body, I was emboldened to acquaint the stranger with my ideas on the subject, which I did in the following manner:—"The most eminent natural philosophers and learned men, whose works must be read with admiration, for their proficiency in the most obtruse sciences, and their wonderful knowledge of nature, have yet failed to discover the origin and first principles of created things. They have been lost in the wide field of conjecture, since the Great Creator has reserved this knowledge for himself; and although they have succeeded in discovering three principles, which are known by the common names of salt, sulphur, and mercury, they are yet entirely ignorant from what these are derived. All the account, therefore, that I am able to give you is this:—When I travelled through Italy, I stopped at Naples, where I saw

Mount Vesuvius, which is situated five or six miles from the city, and near the sea, like this of Awatska. I have been struck with the remarkable situation of volcanos in this respect, of being near the ocean; and my ideas upon the subject lead me to conclude, that the sea, being a quick current water, as well as a mineral body, in the course of the passage which it works through the depths of this earth, may not improbably meet with a number of caverns, in which is to be found matter of every kind. These materials all repose, as it were, in a profound sleep, waiting for some power to rouse them. Similar natures always attract each other: the sea, therefore, meeting with these impure bodies, fraught with its own sulphureous, mercurial, and saline principles, operates actively upon creatures so like itself, revives and puts in motion these sluggish and inert bodies, and thus increases their spiritual essence; then working together in the bowels

of the earth, and sending forth noxious odours, arising from the infectious vapours with which they are filled, they at length burst forth, blowing up the ground with the greatest violence, and by the co-operation of the air, discharge vast flames of fire."

When I had thus stated to him the cause of volcanos, according to my own ideas, founded merely upon the nature of the elements, I beheld in his countenance marks of pleasure; and he seemed to be at once surprised and gratified, by my singular description of these works of nature. My ready answer to his question, procured me the favour of a very polite offer to shew me the third volcano, which I readily accepted: but as it grew rather late, this visit was deferred until the next day; and in the mean time he gave me a pressing invitation to dine with him, which I promised to do with great pleasure.

I now found, to my astonishment, that I

was in company with the governor, who conducted me to his palace, in the peninsula of Botcharetsk, where he did me the honour to introduce me to his lady, by whom I was received with the utmost politeness and attention. I was much gratified by his company, finding him a man of knowledge. His literary pursuits afforded him a very agreeable resource in his present situation, where no society was to be found, and in a country which presented the appearance of a complete desert. His habitation was not far distant from the volcanos, built on a low ground leading to the sea of Oketsk, and on the north of the river Bolchoireka. I was most agreeably entertained in his society, and on the next day the governor honoured me with a call, and we proceeded to visit the third or last volcano. It rises, if my remembrance be correct, from the highest mountain in the peninsula of Kamschatka, and throws out continually a variety of substances accom-

panied with smoke. We remained there only a short time, as nothing met our eyes but horror: the frightful appearance of those pits casting forth showers of stones and ashes, presented to the imagination a picture of the desolation of the world.

The view of these wonderful, but horrid phenomena, so forcibly impressed me, that I determined to quit the country as soon as possible, and consequently took measures to forward my concert, before any additional explosion should happen. A lucky opportunity presented itself, on my being invited to dine with the governor. I seized the moment, to beg of him and his lady, that they would do me the kindness to patronize my concert. They graciously acceded to to my request, and appointed a day, when a most elegant assembly attended my concert, which was as productive as I could possibly expect from such a city as Bolcheretsk.

I now took the liberty to pay my respects

to my generous patrons, and to bid them farewell. I was obliged to wait a long time for a favourable season to take my departure. I must observe, that in this country a deep snow falls in the beginning of May, which covers the whole country. The traveller will then find it impossible to proceed, as I can vouch from experience, having made the attempt, which nearly cost me my life. About the middle of the month a thaw commences, the snow then melts rapidly on the sides of the mountains, and in June the low grounds are generally free from it. As, however, I did not put much confidence in this season, I stopped till August, when the vegetation appeared in its perfection. I was informed by the inhabitants, that I might safely continue during the month of September, as the weather would still be mild; but that if I should stay until October, I would then behold a new fall of snow covering the land and hills. As I had no wish to witness

the return of such inclement weather, I made preparation for setting out immediately.

A few days before my departure, a gentleman, who was a native of the country, very kindly waited on me, and paid me the most polite attention, inviting me to dine at his house. I gladly accepted his invitation, was introduced to his family, and well received. I spent a most agreeable day, and found this gentleman possessed of elegant manners, and extensive information. He acquainted me with many curious particulars concerning his country, which had struck me at first as by no means flourishing. I learned from him, that though apparently so poor, the inhabitants have, by means of their commerce, which consists in furs and other articles of trade, a great quantity of money circulating among them. I was glad to hear such a good account of the country, which, I confessed, I had once thought a miserable corner of the world, not capable, as I afterwards

found, of producing verdure, pasturage, vegetables, and grain. He concluded by offering me his company and protection, through the whole of Kamschatka; as I had informed him that I intended to visit those wonderful Straits of the Frozen Sea, opposite to New Wales in America, called Bhering's Straits.

In a few days we set out on our journey: many hot springs were to be found on our road, and my companion amused me with the sight of two most remarkable ones. The first is, to the best of my recollection, not far from a village called Natchechin. There arises from it a steam as from a boiling pot, which emits a smell of sulphurous and other matters too strong to be supported. The other was in a mountain, near the river called Paudja: from its top falls a cataract of boiling water, with a most horrid and frightful noise; and, proceeding a considerable length, bubbles up to the height of more than eight feet, till it discharges itself into several of those lakes,

which are found in great abundance in this country. This mountain produces some curious stones of variegated colours. After viewing these wonderful springs, we pursued our journey, and passing Aklańsk, not far from the sea of Anadir, we arrived at Bhering's Straits.

The emotions of awe and wonder which I felt on viewing the Frozen Ocean, led me to reflect how many ingenious writers, who have bestowed much pains in weaving intricate webs, and forming numerous theories, to explain all things to the satisfaction of their readers, have, like overloaded vessels, suffered shipwreck, and sank in the depths of blindness and of error. This must ever be the case when our wandering imaginations rashly attempt to penetrate the secret wonders of nature, through that dark cloud with which the Almighty has overspread our faculties. It seemed to me that it would not be proper to speak too hastily of this

Frozen Sea, in an unfavourable manner; and I was led to amuse my fancy with conjectures, that as the great Author of Nature has presented nothing to us without design, this ocean was to be regarded in another light than as a direct barrier and separation from the rest of the world; and that, if it were possible for any mortal to pass over it, so wonderful a man would perhaps deserve to meet with climates far superior to our own. This imaginary voyage must not, however, make me forget to mention, that I observed in the country, marmots and wild sheep, most beautiful and curious little animals, such as I had not seen any where in my travels, except in Corsica and Sardinia.

When I was ready to return, I consulted my worthy friend, Mr. Prokop, on the subject of the nearest road to my own country. From his information, I found that there was little difference, in regard of nearness, between the two routes that offered themselves.

He advised me, however, to pass through Siberia, rather than to coast along the Frozen Sea by Somoyeda, as there was a probability of my finding some towns which would contribute to defray my expences. My good friend seemed not much satisfied with the choice I made: we set out, however, and he kindly conducted me as far, I think, as a place called Kirilovo, opposite to the new coast discovered by navigators. He there left me, and I proceeded to coast along the Frozen Sea. I soon found that my friend would have good reason to laugh at my expence, as I met with nothing but miserable villages, in which no comfortable provisions could be procured. The inhabitants, living near the sea, subsist chiefly on dead animals thrown up by the waves, and on the wild beasts which they shoot. If they can find nothing better, they feed on snakes, dogs, cats, rats, mice, and vermin. It was very fortunate for me, that I had been well sup-

plied by my friend with good provisions, otherwise my situation must have been most wretched.

Persevering in this unpleasant journey, I at length reached Olensk, where things began to assume rather a better appearance. I afterwards passed through Borchatewa, and the lake Pyasina, Staroka, Kamionka, Taurenkansk, till I approached the gulf of Obb. I had yet a long journey to go; but on my arrival at Neiwanskoi, I was informed, that I was then in the province of Tobolsk, remarkable for its curious manufactures in brass, copper, and iron, and in the neighbourhood of a city named Catherineburg, where the Director of the Siberian mines resided.

I hastened to pay a visit to this city, which is situated on the river Yet, and well fortified, having an arsenal, exchange, and custom-house. In short, it appeared excellently calculated for my purpose, of getting a good concert, to recruit my exhausted means,

and make good my losses. Unfortunately, however, I had not been provided with letters of recommendation to the Director, a circumstance which caused me some uneasiness; but relying on that good Providence, which had conducted me so far, I ventured to distribute concert bills in the city. One fortunately came into the hands of the Director's daughter, and procured me admission to the family: I immediately received from her father a polite note, containing an invitation to dine with him, and to bring some instruments to make a little concert. I gladly seized the opportunity to secure his patronage, which would so materially advance my interest, and I accepted his kind invitation. He received me with such civility and attention, that I am at a loss to express how greatly I feel indebted to him, and to the whole of his amiable family, for their kindness.

I had now a flattering prospect of a lucra-

tive concert, in which I was not disappointed; for this worthy family took such an active part in my behalf, that I was honoured by the attendance of a numerous assembly, and placed in a better situation than I could boast of when I arrived at the town. I remained for some time after my concert, enjoying the pleasant society of the Director's family, and of a few select friends, blessed with most excellent dispositions, and a charming affability. I had no reason to regret the loss of the people whom I had left behind, on the coast of the Frozen Sea, and who were scarcely worthy of a single thought bestowed upon them.

I now began to reflect on my past fortunes and present situation, and concluded, that the best thing I could do was to arm myself with patience and prudence against the evils and changes of life, as I must expect to meet with many reverses in the long journey which I had still to go. My courage was

strengthened by the recollection, how providentially I had been preserved during my travels in Anatolia, Syria, the Archipelago, and the rest of that empire, including Smyrna, where I had escaped the dreadful plague, which raged in that magnificent city. My narrative would be lengthened beyond due bounds, were I to describe its buildings, the grandeur of which will never be effaced from my memory. I might indeed urge, as an additional reason for the omission, that those descriptions are better suited to such ingenious persons as travel for amusement, and usefully employ their leisure hours in describing the objects they have seen, than to me who travelled for subsistence; who had no remittances to depend upon; and who was often disappointed, even in my expectations of a transient supply,—as in the case of my arrival in Aladulia, which I had visited with sanguine hopes, knowing the province to abound in silver, copper, and many other

mines, but was obliged to quit, on finding it infested by troops of plundering banditti. I felt very grateful for my good fortune, in having met with such a family as the Director's, to which I was invited every day, and was entertained with a variety of amusements, or was a party in some interesting conversation.

Among a variety of questions which he put to me, the Director expressed a wish to be informed, if I thought the Russian empire equal to those nations through which I had travelled. My friend forgot that I had visited foreign countries, not with a view to notice such matters, but to forward my own interest, and with an intention, as soon as I should gain a sufficiency, of retiring to a private life. But as I perceived that he was pleased with my conversation, I endeavoured to satisfy him to the best of my ability, and observed: "that the Russian empire was not so favourably situated with regard to cli-

mate as that of Turkey ; that foreigners must admire the civilized manners of the Russians of higher rank, but that I could find no improvement in those of the common people, and that their savage dispositions seemed as incapable of correction, as those of the Turkish commonalty ; that when I considered the vast length and breadth, and amazing extent of the empire of Russia, I could not help comparing it to a giant,—and Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, with its mountains called Ardongen, to pigmies passing between his legs." My friend, the Director, was pleased with this idea ; and I then gave him a little sketch of Copenhagen the metropolis of Denmark, and Stockholm the metropolis of Sweden ; which latter city seemed to me to bear a great resemblance to Venice, in its situation, and in the striking views which it presents to the eye of a traveller.

I shall not enter into any further details of

this conversation. I was next day honoured with a visit; and he took me to see some villages, at a short distance, near the river Obb. I was delighted with their beauty, and with the charming prospects beheld from the neighbouring country, affording a very fine subject for landscape. This romantic scenery reminded me of my travels in Norway, the most mountainous of all the countries I passed through, and particularly of the Dofrefield mountains, which rise to such a monstrous height,—and some others over which my road lay, abounding with cataracts and dreadful precipices, which were passable only by wooden bridges, very slightly built. On some of those mountains I met with water at the top, which had a most striking effect.

After our return from these villages, I dined, as usual, at the Director's house, and spent my time most pleasantly with his charming family. His daughter was so accomplished a young lady, that I could not

wonder at her being so great a favourite with her parents. Nature had endowed her with a disposition so amiable, that she attracted the regard of all who knew her. She possessed a mind quick and penetrating, and was most mild and affable in conversation. I happened one day to be at the house, when she received some new music, including a number of songs. As she sung admirably, and my instrument was ready, being kept in her apartment, she was pleased that I should come and try those songs with her, when there would be no company to interrupt us, and none present but her father and mother. I did so; and it happened, that after our musical entertainment, her father and mother left us alone, when she took this opportunity very anxiously to inquire if I had been at Warsaw at the time my King was taken prisoner by the banditti of Kosinski. Not apprehending that any particular consequences could result from my answer, I replied, "that

I was then at Warsaw." She next asked me if I recollected who was Minister of the Court of Petersburg at that period, and who was Commander in Chief of the Russian armies. I answered, "that Baron de Stakelberg held the former post, and General Romanious the latter." She seemed much pleased with this information, and directly told me, that I must be the very person who had been described by General Romanious in a letter. This commander, if I recollect rightly, was her uncle. She hastened with great joy to acquaint her father and mother with her discovery, and brought me the letter alluded to, telling me that it was in vain to deny myself, as she was convinced, from every circumstance, and not least from my manners, conversation, and the polite attention I had paid them, that I must be the very person. She then pressed me so earnestly to declare my real name, that I could not resist her entreaties. Upon this avowal,

she immediately showed me my name in the letter, which she had before concealed. I explained to her my reasons for the secrecy I had observed, which she approved, and promised that my secret should not be betrayed.

The letter was read to me, in which I found myself mentioned in a manner much more flattering than I deserved. I was forcibly struck with the conclusion of his letter, in which he displayed the character of a brave General. "I have no news," said he, "to send you, except that we have been very troublesome to the Poles, our neighbours, and have taken General Sawa prisoner. He was conducted to Warsaw, where our minister, Baron de Stakelberg, received him in his palace with all due honours; but, notwithstanding every possible care was taken of him, this brave General died on the third day, of the many wounds he had received." On hearing this, I observed, that I was at War-

saw when this General died, and that I recollected very well the circumstances of the sudden hostilities commenced against us by our late pretended friends, in whom we had placed so much confidence, and who seemed to have been long preparing, by slow and premeditated motions, to become our enemies. I remarked, "that nothing seemed left for us, but to mourn our country, as a child would lament the loss of its parent, and wait with melancholy patience for its resurrection." The Director, who was then present, smiled, and told me, that we were a powerful nation, and would bereave many other children of their parent countries, and that we would become more terrible when we should set our feet upon European ground. I thought it best to say nothing further on this subject, as I did not feel myself qualified for entering into political discussions with one to whom they were so familiar. But his observation led me to think, that unless I be sadly mistaken,

there is a large apple dumpling made, and now boiling in the pot, for certain Princes, which must in due time be ready for their dinner.

In the course of our conversation, the Director introduced the name of General Beniouski, who had the misfortune to lose a battle at the time of the confederacy of Bar, and was conducted to Siberia as a prisoner of war, whence he ingeniously contrived to escape. I was reminded by the mention of this General, that before I visited the empire of Russia, I had met him at Vienna, where he was busily engaged in some chemical preparations with Count Rzewreski, General of the Crown, and a relation of the Countess Humiecka; and that, being intimate with the Count, and happening to have a good many books on the subject, I became a member of their society. But finding my attempts to procure the philosopher's stone unsuccessful, I took leave of them, and making a tour

through Italy, came at last into Etruria. I then took shipping for Corsica, and from thence sailed to Sardinia, where I was surprised by meeting with General Beniouski. He was on his way to Barbary ; and knowing my taste for chemistry, he pressed me earnestly to go with him, telling me that he had found a philosopher who could change metals into gold. The name of the person, he informed me, was Abraham Caab. " This name of Caab," observed the General to me, " is an illustrious one ; and the family of the man I am now speaking of is a branch of that of the Jew Caab, who was originally a Rabbi, but afterwards turned Mussulman, and assisted Mahomet in composing the Koran." This information inspired me with fresh confidence ; as I imagined that the transmutation of metals must be an easy task to him, who could overcome the much greater difficulty, of changing his faith. Supposing it, therefore, very probable, that he might be able to

turn lead into gold, I readily consented to accompany the General.

We sailed from the gulf of Palma, and landed at Tunis, with which we were sadly disappointed, finding it a miserable, ill-built city, possessing nothing worthy of notice, but its situation, which is on an elevated ground on the west of the lake, with a prospect of Carthage and Guletta. It is a very inconvenient place for strangers, since there is no water to be met with, that has not a brackish taste; but as we had not come to drink water, but to find out our philosopher, on being told that his residence was at Biserta, about ten miles from Tunis, we set out for that town.

We were next directed to Nabal, where on our arrival we found, not this wonderful Caab, but a manufactory of pottery, which exceeded in quality any that I beheld in that country. Here we met with a Turkish dervise or priest, who treated us kindly, and

directed us to Susa, the capital of the province of the same name, where a Turkish Pacha kept his residence. At this city we succeeded in finding the object of our search, who was busily employed about the philosopher's stone. I was not surprised that he should choose to fix his abode at Susa, in preference to many other towns, as it is a considerable city. Its inhabitants proved their civility towards strangers, by the great attention they shewed in assisting us to find out our philosopher. This worthy personage gave General Beniouski the most flattering assurances, that he would find out the secret of the precious stone. I was not introduced to him until he had finished a secret conference with the General, and many days passed before my friend was favoured with the receipt for this great work of nature.

We then proceeded in the following manner :—We extracted sulphur from mercury by separation, and took the mixed corporeal

and spiritual compound, the body of which is coagulated from the volatile matters by digestion. We separated the mercury from its sulphur, by means of a glass. We used white glass fixed, and resisting aqua fortis, and heavier than common glass. When we had completed our extraction, and mixed it with gold, we put our preparation into a philosophical oval glass, which we placed in a furnace, built for the purpose, with geometrical proportion. We kept a constant fire with sand heated to the highest degree, and our compound continued circulating day and night without interruption, whilst we were anxiously waiting for its elevation, and for the appearances of its progress toward the desired end. But we were grievously disappointed, its continued motion producing no improvement either as to quality or quantity, but the dead mixture keeping in the oval glass. Thus we remained without the least prospect of our ounces of gold ascend-

ing, whilst we began to be sensible of a material descension in our purses.

I was consoled under my disappointment, by the kindness of the Pacha, who took the most friendly notice of me, and assisted me in getting a little money by means of a concert (if it may be so called) performed by Mr. Beniouski and myself. My friend played on the flute (on which instrument he performed remarkably well), and I on the violin.—To return from my digression :—I took leave of my friend the director, and a short time after this I set out for Oufa.

CHAP. V.

Arrival at the city of Oufa; description of antique remains in the neighbourhood of that place—Second visit to Oremburg—Digression; introduction to Voltaire—Reflections—Visit to Bokhara—Arrival at Kislaer, the metropolis of the Circassian Tartars; account of a hot spring there—Journey through Croatia, Dalmatia, and lower Arabia, to Kamienice, and thence to Buda—Visit to Lintz and Munich; introduction to the Elector; interview with the Prince de la Tour and Taxis, also with the Prince de Wallerstein—Arrival at Triersdorff; kind attentions of the Margrave and Margravine of Anspach.

On my approach to the city of Oufa, I observed that its environs were surrounded with rising hills and woods. It does not present a very splendid appearance, and has no particular claims to notice. But as I was told, that above Oufa, on the other side of

the Dicuma, and at no great distance, many ancient monuments were to be found, I went on purpose to see them. There are remaining numerous ruins of what may be called sepulchral chapels, surrounded with Arabian tomb stones, bearing inscriptions. As these writings excited my curiosity, I begged an explanation of them, but found no one who was able to satisfy my inquiry. My conjectures led me to conclude, that the provinces had formerly belonged to the Arabian nation, until they were admitted to the honour of becoming a part of the Russian empire. The Russians, I presume, wished to enjoy some better climate and milder air, than those of their own native Moscow and Frozen Ocean; and in this they were perfectly right. Undoubtedly, the acquisition also would give them a more imposing appearance, and a greater probability of success. They were very lucky in meeting with friends so well inclined to their welfare, as to assist

them in putting their feet upon a warmer and a better soil.

Among other nations, which they have since honoured in a similar manner, my native country (Poland) has the happiness to be included. It has contributed to the improvement of that great empire, by adding considerably to its length and breadth, as well as by enabling it to breathe a milder air, and cultivate a more fruitful land. Sensible of the kindness that has been shewn them, the Polish people wait with the greatest impatience for an opportunity to evince their gratitude to those feeling hearts, who have helped to unite them to so great a body as the Russian empire. The thought is most gratifying, that we have been enabled to become useful subjects of so extensive and mighty a nation. And they that united us to them, will no doubt have reason to be gratified with the display which that nation will make, and with the terror it will inspire in the day of

battle, at any time when a desire of tormenting other nations shall be felt : and such desires must be expected now and then, as naturally as new fashions in dress.

I returned to Oufa without gaining any instruction concerning those antiquities ; and after remaining a short time there, as I had no prospect of succeeding in a concert, I set out for Oremburg. This is an extremely opulent and commercial city, the appearance of which persuaded me that I might set up my trade there with great probability of success. I was further encouraged in my expectation of a good concert, by the great civility which the inhabitants shew to all strangers, and by my good fortune in obtaining an introduction to the family of Mr. Bialosinskoi, a gentleman engaged in a great commercial concern, and also distinguished for his learning. In him I met with a remarkable instance, in addition to those which my travels had already afforded me, of the

double benefit which is derived from an acquaintance with persons of this description. I not only obtained a more enlarged knowledge of the world, but found my little income materially improved. This worthy gentleman promoted my interest with such unwearied zeal, that he procured me a more lucrative concert than I could possibly have expected. I remained some time longer in this city, the society of which I found very agreeable. The greater part of my time was spent with the respectable family of Mr. Bialosinskoi, who kindly introduced me into his library, which excited my admiration, as it contained an excellent selection of the works of the most approved authors, and a surprising collection of ancient and modern philosophers. Here I met with the Henriade of Voltaire, and several other interesting works of that author; which reminded me of my interview with him in my younger days, at the house of Madame de Jofruen.

who was his intimate friend. She was a most respectable lady, and remarkable both for her extensive knowledge, and her amiable disposition. Her chief society was composed of literary men, who, to whatever profession they belonged, or whatever arts they followed, became members of her circle. My little person had excited in her breast a curiosity to see me, which she was enabled to gratify without any difficulty.

It happened that I was often with Madame de Pompadour, at Versailles, where I had the honour to pay my respects to the Queen. Madame de Pompadour was sometimes visited by her brother, the Marquis de Marini, with whom I was intimate, and who was nearly related to Madame de Jofruen. They were both very desirous to introduce me to that lady; and I the more readily consented, as I had before heard a very pleasing account of her amiable disposition. I had the honour to be introduced on the following day to

Madame de Jofruen, and her literary society. I exerted my best endeavours to make myself agreeable to her; and had the happiness to be so far successful, that I could perceive she was very much pleased with my replies to her questions. She was so kind as to give me a general invitation to her Monday dinners: the Abbé Raynal was present at this conversation, and seemed to take pleasure in seizing every opportunity to shew me kind attentions, and to improve my volatile mind. I was then very young. But I was by no means insensible to the advantage I might derive from being admitted to so learned a society: I was conscious that, if duly improved, it might make me, notwithstanding my diminutive stature, an object more deserving of notice in the rational creation than some of a larger size; as in the natural world the humble reseda diffuses a perfume, which does not belong to the lofty chesnut. I considered, that such society would give a polish

to my manners, improve my judgment, and impart a steadiness and firmness to my soul, which would enable me to support such calamities as might hereafter be my lot, and to preserve tranquillity under all the reverses of fortune.

On the Monday following, when I was at Madame de Jofruen's, she received a letter from her friend, Mons. de Voltaire, which contained nothing particular, unless I may mention a humorous account which he gave of a gentleman who professed to be an antiquarian, and had lately published five volumes, respecting a discovery which he had made in the city of Paris and its environs. They contained an account of the temples of Isis and Osiris, built at Montmartre and St. Germain, near Paris, in the time of the Druids, and many other fantastic stories, with a number of engravings upon tombstones, and figures, all of which, however, wanted some part, having either broken

hands, feet, noses, or heads. M. de Voltaire very politely assured the gentleman, that he did not pretend to be an antiquarian; that he had no doubt the figures must be those of some very elevated personages; and that, excepting the little circumstance of their wanting heads and feet, they appeared most singular in his eyes. His letter concluded with expressing an earnest wish to see me, on account of the favourable description of me, received from Madame de Jofruen. Accordingly, next Monday evening I was introduced by that lady to this wonderful man. The first sight of the philosopher made such an impression on my mind, that I became at once profoundly silent. This circumstance was noticed by l'Abbé Raynal, and the rest of the company, who were somewhat surprised, as they knew me to be in general lively, noisy, and talkative. Madame de Jofruen asked me with her accustomed sweetness, where I had lost my

tongue. "Indeed, Madam," I replied, "I have been reflecting, that the knowledge of the mysterious sources of the works of nature, which is in fact so difficult to acquire, has been obtained in inimitable perfection by this gentleman. When I consider that he is already in full possession of it, must I not look on his head as a wonderful reservoir of wisdom, from which it is poured forth in copious streams around the admiring world." At this avowal of the sentiments I felt, which that respectable old philosopher so justly merited, I could perceive his eyes filled with an expression of surprise and interest. He instantly approached me with enthusiastic joy, like one suddenly awakened from a dream, snatched me up in his arms, and addressing himself to the company, paid me this flattering compliment: "Here is a good soil, where the best seeds may be sown with advantage." "As you are a good farmer," I immediately answered, "I beg you will

clear it of weeds." With this reply, Madame de Jofruen, l'Abbé Raynal, and the rest of the company, were highly pleased.

To return from my digression, I must still remain of the same sentiments with respect to those great empires and Asiatic kingdoms into which I penetrated, during the three years of my travels ; and it is with sorrow I reflect, that those enchanting holy lands, blessed with the most delightful climates, and abounding in every species of enjoyment, are inhabited by nations so far behind us in civilization, destitute of all the arts of cultivation, and little better than a band of plunderers. In passing through such countries, a traveller must unavoidably be exposed to danger. I reaped, however, this advantage, from the hazards which I encountered, that they served to strengthen in my breast that contempt of danger, and resolute perseverance in the pursuit of independence, which I found very necessary to support me

under my struggles against an obstinate world, and the caprice of fortune. My labours, however, were the easier, as my views were bounded by the prospect of that competence, beyond which I considered it as a foolish ambition to aspire.

I now prepared to quit those kingdoms, which I found not answerable to my purposes. I must, notwithstanding, acknowledge the kind and liberal hospitality I met with among the independent Tartars, the goodness of whose dispositions I contemplated with the highest degree of esteem. I stopped for some weeks at Bokhara, which is situate in a delightful climate, suitable to the nature of its inhabitants: the sky is beautifully clear, and the earth extremely fertile, and covered with the most luxuriant verdure. I decline to swell my pages with a particular account of those kingdoms, since it was not for the purpose of description I travelled through them; and several celebrated writers

have already gratified the public with ample information on this subject, and, as far as I have observed, with so much accuracy, as would render any detailed account from me little better than a mere repetition. My own particular acquaintance with the manners of those people, obliged me to confirm the general opinion of their rudeness and barbarity; but, since I have found these savage creatures capable of receiving the principles of morality, as well as civilized nations, I should be inclined to ask, Who is to be blamed for this? they or their chiefs? who may, I think, be compared to the father of a young family, who neglects to instil the lessons of good morals into the breasts of his offspring; in which case, even if no worse consequence ensue, they must of course remain like stocks in a garden, which have not been grafted, and which consequently grow up wild flowers, unpleasant to the eye.

We have abundant proof that all created

things stand in need of cultivation ; and those amateurs, who are such ardent admirers of simple nature, would never have become distinguished for their eminent abilities and extensive knowledge, without diligent study and cultivation of thosen atural powers, which, unassisted, would have placed them far below the rank in society they have now attained, and sunk them to a level with those savage nations I have just mentioned. I began now to think that I had spent sufficient time amongst them, and, being satisfied with the wonderful specimen of simplicity which I had witnessed, I took leave of their dominions, and setting out from Karsam, I arrived at last safely at Keslaer, the metropolis of the Circassian Tartars. I here met with a native, named John Daros, a good Christian, with whom I remained a month ; and found him to be not only a most worthy and agreeable man, but also an eminent chymist. During my stay, he shewed me several cu-

rious experiments, which excited my astonishment, and which chymists in general would esteem surprising. He was a Grand Master in Masonry, and after a strict examination introduced me to the Lodge, where I found five spacious rooms richly decorated, for what purpose I am not at liberty to say. I have remarked, that Masons on the Continent are not so accommodating as the English Masons, who permit strangers to look into their Lodges. I was also permitted to see four large laboratories for the apprentices to work in; and was witness to some experiments, which were made by the youngest, in the presence of the Grand Master, who was highly pleased with his performance. He took Antimonium Saturninum, and mixed it with some liquid matter of a most pleasant perfume. He then put lead into a crucible, which soon became liquid, and, infusing something to take away the impure scoria, he waited until it was clear. He then im-

mediately introduced the antimony, which had been prepared for the purpose, and after keeping the mixture a short time upon the fire, he took it off: when it became cold, it was removed from the crucible, and we found the produce to be a pure crystal. Close to the Lodge is a large building, on purpose for the brethren who have been reduced to poverty. They receive liberal pensions, in return for which it is their duty to take care that the Lodge be kept in order, and the iron door regularly locked; a precaution which is very necessary, as the Lodge is extremely rich. From their industry they carry on a very extensive commerce; for which they are advantageously situated, as their contiguity to the Black and farther Caspian Seas enables them to traffic both with Turkey and Persia.

As I recollected having read, in the works of some travellers, an account of a curious hot spring near this city, I enquired of Mr.

Daros if such a curiosity really existed, and he convinced me of its reality by taking me to see it. A stream of boiling water issued from the spring, which had a strong smell of naphtha, and fell into a sort of basin, 16 feet in circumference and 7 in depth. On the west there were seven small wells of the same kind of water, and an acid spring on the east. I had been told, that the water of the first well would boil a fowl in a short time, and was the more readily disposed to believe this account, by finding that I scalded my finger which I had dipped into the spring.

After viewing this curiosity, which corresponded with the account I had read, except a trifling difference with regard to the depth and the circumference, which it is not necessary to particularize, we returned to Mr. Daros. After dinner, my host conducted me to his library, which contained a very large collection of books, comprising the

works of the best authors in the Arabic, Greek, Latin, and French languages, all of which he spoke. He made me a present of a very ancient French book of chemistry, which I have still in my possession.

Next day I left Keslaer, and travelled rapidly, but unfortunately happened to miss the straight road, and found myself in Croatia, Dalmatia, and the Lower Arabia. I thought myself very lucky when I arrived at Walachia and Hocime; as I then began to anticipate the happiness, which I should so soon enjoy, of once more beholding my native country, for which purpose I had only to pass the Dniester. I stopped at Kamienice to see my friends, but I never told them for what purpose I had travelled. Afterwards, I passed to Buda, the metropolis of Lower Hungary; where I was handsomely received, and had a concert, which succeeded extremely well. I was amply provided for travelling, as, in addition to this, my worthy friend,

Daros had not sent me away with an empty purse. Accordingly, I next made my appearance in Germany; for which country I was provided with letters of recommendation to Count de Thierheim, Governor of Lower Austria, and son-in-law of the Prince de Kaunitz, who loaded me with kindnesses. He was so good as to lend me, for the concert, his band of musicians, which was composed of fifteen young men, all good performers, the eldest of whom was not seventeen. The concert being very thinly attended, occasioned this remark to be made—"Little concert, little music, little players, and little receipt." In fact, Lintz, the metropolis of Low Austria, is rather small.

After leaving Lintz, the next place I stopped at was Ratisbon; but not finding the Prince de la Tour and Taxis, who was then at his estate at Teschen, I went immediately to Munich, where her Royal Highness the Electress Dowager resided, whom I had had

the honour to visit before, in my travels with the Countess Humiecka. She was very glad to see me again, and shewed me the same kindness as at the time of my former journey. She perfectly remembered the particular pleasure her illustrious husband had felt in conversing with me, and the special favour he had done me, by presenting me with a chased gold box made by himself. She presented me to his most Serene Highness the then reigning Elector. I was often invited to the assemblies at Court, and every time I was the subject of general conversation. They took great pleasure in tracing back many events and circumstances of my former appearance in that town. His most Serene Highness was so good as to appoint a day for my concert, all the expences of which de desired to defray.

After having taken my leave of their Highnesses, I directed my route to Teschen; where, being arrived, I sent to the Prince de

la Tour and Taxis to request that I might be permitted to pay my respects to him. He answered, that he had often seen men of my species, and had no curiosity to see any more, except one who had travelled with the Countess Humiecka, whom he had always desired to see, without ever having had it in his power. This reply from his Highness to my request could not offend, but was highly flattering to me. When I was told this, I immediately took the liberty to write to his Highness, that I was not only the very same person he had desired to meet with, but that I was the bearer of letters from the Princess his daughter, and the Prince Radziurl his son-in-law, which would confirm the fact; otherwise I should blame myself for taking such a liberty as to trouble his Highness. He then sent a carriage, with his chamberlain, for me. After having bowed to the Prince and to his court, I approached his Highness, and told him that one of the most charming ladies in the

world had charged me to embrace him with all my heart. Without giving me time to finish my phrase, the Prince lifted me up in his arms, and said, " With great pleasure I give you leave." Then, having put me on the ground again, he asked me, who had charged me with so agreeable a commission. I immediately delivered to him the letters of the Prince his son-in-law, and of the Princess his daughter; and told him that, the day before my setting out from Warsaw, having waited on the Princess to receive her orders, she had been so kind as to embrace me, and said, it was on condition I should return that kiss to her papa. She afterwards had enjoined me to press him to take a trip to Poland, to see a daughter who loved him tenderly, and to whose happiness his presence alone was wanting: that, should he not consent to this, nothing could prevent her from setting out immediately, as she was not able to live any longer without the pleasure of seeing him. During the

whole of this recital, the Prince's sensibility was evidently displayed: his eyes sparkled with tears, and, after having read the letters, he embraced me again, and asked many questions respecting the manner in which I had parted from the Countess Humiecka, and the motives that had induced me to undertake new travels. He seemed satisfied with my answers, and engaged me to stay for some time with him.

During my stay at Teschen, there was nothing but feasts and entertainments. When I took my leave of his Highness, he engaged me to pay a visit to the Prince de Wallerstein, his son-in-law, who at that time resided at Honnaltheim, his country seat. This proposal was too agreeable to be refused. Being arrived at Honnaltheim, I was presented to the Prince de Wallerstein, by whom, considering the recommendation I had from his father-in-law, I could not fail to be kindly received. But, though he welcomed

me with all politeness and affability imaginable, I soon perceived that he was labouring under a dark melancholy, and seemed to value life only from his extreme attachment to the Princess his daughter, then four years old. I was soon informed of the cause of this sadness, in which all his court took the greatest concern ; and my astonishment ceased, when I was told that the moment which made him a father, had deprived him of a charming and adored wife, for whom he had mourned ever since. Thus, she who was to have completed his happiness, had been the occasion of plunging him into a state of apathy and insensibility, subsequent to the most violent ravings, which had alarmed his court, first for his life, and afterwards for his reason. I was, however, instrumental in removing this sadness for a few moments, as my figure and manners seemed to amuse the young Princess; and nothing could make any impression upon him, but what interested this child.

Hitherto I had found every reason to applaud myself for the expedient I had taken of travelling: I had been every where welcomed with pleasure, and had met with much civility. But nothing can be compared to the reception I found at the court of his most Serene Highness the Margrave, and her Serene Highness the Margravine of Anspach, at Triersdorff; nor can I find expressions strong enough to describe the sentiments of respectful gratitude I shall ever entertain for that amiable Prince and her Highness, whose generous treatment has made the deepest impression on my heart. I passed six weeks in that delightful place, amidst pleasures and entertainments, and enjoyed that friendly protection which is so flattering when it comes from the great.

Some days after I had commenced my preparations for setting out, the Margrave wrote several letters to his friends, particularly to the Duke of Gloucester, and to his

Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, his brother; and pressed me very much to go to London, and deliver his letters as soon as I should arrive. I then took my leave of their Highnesses. On quitting Triersdorff, my only care was to hasten my journey, that I might reach England as soon as possible, to keep my promise to his Highness the Margrave of Anspach.

CHAP. VI.

Departure for England by Frankfort, Mayence, Manheim, and Strasburgh—Introduction to the Princess Christian, aunt to Louis XVIII.—Arrival at Ostend—Storm at sea—Landing at Margate, and visit of Custom House Officers—Tale of a Tub—Waiter's blunders—Opinion of a stage coach—Departure from Margate, and arrival in London.

I HAVE already observed, that his Excellency Sir Robert Murray Keith had prevailed upon me to visit England, by having assured me a thousand times, that I could not fail of making a brilliant fortune in a country where generosity and greatness of soul are reckoned among the characteristic virtues of the nation. Therefore, after having passed rapidly through Frankfort, Mayence, and Manheim, I went to Strasburgh, where I had

the honour to give a concert, under the patronage of the Princess Christian, aunt of Louis XVIII. the present King of France, to whom I had also the honour to present a letter of recommendation from the Electress of Bavaria, her sister. She politely engaged me to spend every evening at her court. This kind engagement I considered as an extreme favour, since I was convinced that she was actuated by far more noble views, than those of mere curiosity, in taking so great an interest in my concerns. She not only procured me a good benefit, but kindly advised me to pay my visits to those persons who had favoured me with their attendance at my concert, furnishing me at the same time with their names and residence. I acted agreeably to her wishes; from which I derived a great advantage, being received by the public with great attention and politeness, and honoured with an abundance of invitations, so that I found myself truly happy in the

midst of so much kindness, and of so agreeable a society. The Princess had a large party one evening, to which she did me the honour of sending me an invitation, and very graciously introduced me to the brilliant company I found there assembled. She was in high spirits; and, in the course of conversation, brought to my recollection many pleasing circumstances which had occurred during my stay at the court of Munich, and her visit to her sister the Electress of Bavaria. She particularly mentioned my giving a preference to her sister the Princess Elizabeth, above all the beauties of the court. To this observation, I took the liberty of asking the Princess's permission to reply, which she most readily granted, saying, "Speak, Joujou." "If you will allow me, Princess," I answered, "with due respect to your illustrious sister, to confess the truth, I must say, she was so highly favoured by nature, that the charms of her noble and dignified mind, and

her numerous accomplishments, gave her an irresistible power of attraction. Pardon my speaking so freely, but answer me yourself, Princess: How many claims to favour did she not possess?" The Princess was delighted with my reply, and all the company were so well satisfied, that next day I received numerous invitations for dinners, suppers, and assemblies.

This amiable Princess wished to send me to Paris, or to Dresden, assuring me that all my wants should be supplied. But I was obliged to tell her, that I had pledged my promise to Prince Kaunitz, who had so far honoured me with his friendship, as to give me a pressing invitation to go to England, which if I neglected to fulfil, I should be guilty of ingratitude. I added, that I had so much reason to be well pleased with the letters of recommendation which he had procured me to that kingdom, that, with their aid, it was impossible I should fail of success,

amongst so generous a people as the English. The night before my departure, I received from her a handsome gold box, of three different colours, which she had directed to be made on purpose for me, but which cruel necessity afterwards compelled me to dispose of, during my residence in London.

I afterwards directed my course to the opulent city of Brussels, where I remained two months; during which time I fortunately became acquainted with a Mr. Mills, a native of Ireland, who, very prudently considering that the circumstances of my being an entire stranger in London, and my ignorance of the English language, might subject me to difficulties which I had not at all taken into my calculation, most politely gave me a letter of introduction to his friend Mr. Mc Mahon, in London, with a request that I would deliver it immediately upon my arrival there. And so scrupulously did I adhere to the directions of my friend, that on reach-

ing that metropolis, I drove directly to the door of the worthy Mr. M^{c}Mahon, by whom I was immediately received in the politest manner imaginable; and thus, much trouble and inconvenience were saved to me. And if ever this should fall into the hands of my excellent friend, Mr. Mills, I hope it will convince him, that I retain a grateful sense of all his kind attentions to me.

Having anticipated my subject, to discharge this debt of gratitude, I proceed to state, that I embarked at Ostend; and here I must confess my inability to describe the grandeur and solemnity of the scene, with which my mind was at that moment impressed, on beholding again so tremendous a spectacle as the sea—such a depth and extent of boisterous and tempestuous water, whereon I was so soon to expose my life! I had a sort of foreboding, that it was to be my grave; which was in truth nearly realized. For, during a difficult passage of six days, we were con-

tinually tossed about by storms and tempests; the masts were broken, the sails rent and carried away, and in short, there was every appearance of approaching destruction. And, notwithstanding my serious alarms for my own personal safety, I may, I hope, be permitted to add, that my feelings were greatly increased by my apprehensions for the companions of the voyage; many of whom probably had large families, whose comforts wholly depended on their lives and health. The storm, however, at length happily abated, and then our attention was turned to the miserable state of the passengers on board; all of whom were either affected by a violent spitting of blood, or the most dreadful sea sickness, the general consequence of a storm; so that the satisfaction which was felt by all upon making the harbour, may more easily be conceived than described.

It was night-fall ere we came in sight of Margate, and being also low water, the Cap-

tain felt great difficulty in approaching with his vessel; but, on my earnest intreaty to be set on shore, he most politely directed his master to accompany me in the boat with my luggage; giving him, at the same time, the strictest injunctions to pay every possible attention to my safety and accommodation. The master, therefore, together with myself and servant, bag and baggage, now steered in the packet boat for the shore; on our reaching which a difficulty arose, that almost led me to repent having left the vessel, for we soon discovered, that we had not any person to take care of the boat, whilst my luggage was conveyed to the inn, which provoked me more than if I had remained on board; but, at length a man passing by, we asked him, if he would procure a large stone, to supply the want of an anchor, to moor the boat, offering at the same time to make him a recompence for his trouble. This he readily undertook, and accordingly, I dispatched my man

along with him; and they having soon returned with a stone large enough for the purpose, and a long rope for a temporary cable, we contrived to secure the boat, and prepared to move our trunks, in a state of perfect security, as we vainly imagined. For, what was my surprise, on beholding six men, carrying lanthorns in their hands, and approaching us from the harbour! At first I supposed them to be my old neighbours the Tartars, near the Borysthenes, or a savage banditti from Zehdho, who had landed in England, to which they bore an exact resemblance; so that I, who had so lately congratulated myself upon a most providential escape from the dangers of the sea, now again gave myself up for lost, not doubting that my life must eventually be sacrificed; an idea which was considerably strengthened by the cruel and wanton manner in which I beheld these savages, forcing open the locks of the packages, rummaging and searching the trunks

for hidden treasure, as I imagined ; and, on their disappointment in not finding any, I did not at all doubt that their vengeance would fall upon me, so wild and infuriate were they in their manners, more resembling wild beasts than men, and ready to knock out our brains on the least show of resistance.

But my fears were speedily dissipated, and my mind relieved, on being told, that these worthy gentlemen were Custom House Officers ; and I afterwards found, that their proceedings were fully sanctioned by the laws of this land of boasted liberty. But, as I could not at that time imagine, that any laws could countenance such wanton and unnecessary proceedings ; and as I thought that the utmost extent of their duty was to prevent smuggling, and not to exercise their prerogative to the dread of strangers, I began to remonstrate with them on their conduct. I found, however, that I gained nothing for my labour but a torrent of abuse, which was not

a little increased by their mortification, at not having made any discoveries. Casting, however, their eyes around, they soon perceived the rope plunged into the water; at which I could observe a glance of satisfaction for a moment enlighten the gloomy countenances of these worthy beings, upon the prospect which they supposed presented itself, of promoting the interests of government; for I cannot for a moment imagine, that they had any views to their own personal advantage; and I could not refrain from smiling at the alacrity with which they set about dragging the rope to the surface; but the stone having sunk deeply in the sand, increased their difficulties, and I desired my servant to give them his assistance, by which means the mighty treasure was brought to light. Upon which, with great gravity, I requested that they would accept of so very valuable a pebble, as some reward for their services; hoping, at the same time, that it

might be considered as an earnest of what their zeal and activity might expect from government, to whom I could not fail to communicate every particular of the transaction. On such an occasion, the privilege of a reply is generally exercised, and accordingly, one of these gentry smartly enough observed, "No, no! Sir, keep it to yourself, if you are going to London, it may be the means of making your fortune." To which I replied, "that I was by no means disposed to rob him of the fair perquisites of his office, but begged him to put it into the box, which he had ready upon his back."

During my conversation with this man he wore an upper coat, which concealed what I took for a box actually fastened to his back, but which, in fact, turned out to be a natural hump; otherwise, nothing could be more distant from my ideas, than to deride any human being, on account of the infirmities of nature. My good friend, however, appeared

to be cruelly offended at my observation, and asked, if I meant to insult him, by comparing him to Æsop: to which I very readily answered, that such a comparison would not hold in any other way than this, namely, I had always considered Æsop as a very eminent and renowned character; in high esteem with his king, on account of the beauties of his mind; and, although there was some trifling difference between the two, yet I thought my friend, to whom I was addressing myself, equally entitled to the confidence of his sovereign, by reason of his personal exertions for the benefit of the revenue. With this apology the gentleman acquiesced, and expressed himself satisfied; but I could perceive, it was that sort of satisfaction which we feel on taking wormwood drops: we taste a little of the bitter along with the sweet. A mutual amnesty, however, succeeded, and my friend took his leave with that degree of silent humility which became his situation.

After the departure of these national protectors, I availed myself of the opportunity to proceed to the inn, where I arrived late at night, and, being very much fatigued and exhausted, from the roughness of the voyage and the length of time that I had been detained in the boat, I preferred bed to supper, and gave my directions accordingly.

During the first moments that I was in bed, before I experienced the visitation of the drowsy god, I felt (as I have since understood is generally the case after a sea voyage) motions similar to those of an earthquake, which continued, without interruption, for some time, but which I at first disregarded, and turned my head, which I had lifted up, again to the pillow, seeking that repose so necessary for my agitated mind and weary limbs; but, on a sudden, I was awakened from my drowsiness, by a repetition of the same sensations more violent than before: the bed shook under me, and I was seriously

alarmed, being in that state which may properly be called half asleep, and recollecting that, in my former travels through Italy, I had visited Aquila, the capital of Abruzzo, where I was informed that the earth had opened, and discharged immense quantities of stones, which covered the surface of the country for several miles round; and that, afterwards, from the same volcanos had issued water spouts, which deluged the whole surrounding neighbourhood, as I myself beheld,—all the horrors of that dreadful situation immediately crowded on my mind; and, upon a third yet more violent agitation of the bed, in my exertion to avoid the imagined danger, by a sudden attempt to leap to the other side of the bed, I found myself—I give you leave to guess where, but it will never occur to you. Judge, then, my astonishment, to find myself up to the neck in a tub of salt water; a situation not greatly improved by the total darkness of the room, and my utter inability

to form any correct judgment of my real situation.

Whilst immersed in this delightful pickle, my ears were saluted by a noise, which I could not so aptly compare to any thing, as to a volcanic eruption of the earth; and I gave myself up now as totally lost:—conceive, then, how I felt relieved from my anxiety, on hearing the voices of the passengers from the packet, who had just arrived at the inn, the flood tide having brought them into the harbour. Amongst others, I had the satisfaction to distinguish a French officer, M. Larmina, who was on his way to take a command in the service of the Emperor of Morocco, and with whom I had formed an acquaintance during the passage. He spoke the Turkish language very fluently, and might have passed very well for a renegado.

No sooner was my friend Larmina arrived at the inn, than, having expressed his appre-

hensions for my safety, and making anxious inquiries after me, he was introduced into my room, where he found me in the situation I have already described. I immediately stated to him all the circumstances, and I soon discovered, that I owed great part of my fright and alarm to a mastiff dog, which happened to be above, in the place to which he usually made his retreat at night; the house being slightly built, the noise he made shook my room, as much as if it had been an earthquake. I must, however, frankly confess, that all the tragic powers of a Siddons and a Kemble combined, would not have inspired my mind with more dreadful ideas than this mastiff dog produced.

Order having been in some degree restored, and my friend Larmina having communicated to our fellow passengers the particulars of my disaster, which he did not fail to embellish with all the humour, of which he possessed an abundant share, they immedi-

ately thronged into my room, pouring upon me their most hearty congratulations, on my deliverance from so critical and gloomy a situation, and wishing me joy upon my independence, and restoration to liberty from the tub. They told me, they would not fail to celebrate the anniversary of so memorable a day, with as much solemnity as the Gunpowder Plot, adding, that they would instantly proceed to offer a *Te Deum*. But to this I answered, that as we were at a considerable distance from the church, and as my imaginary travel last night to Abruzzo had procured me an appetite, I should prefer a good breakfast, (which was accordingly ordered) to all the thanksgivings in the world. "You perhaps think, my friends," added I, "that this is a most unlucky accident; but, I assure you, it does not disconcert me. I rather take it as an omen, that though I may hereafter be a little tossed about on the ocean of life, I shall be able to keep my

head above water, and find friends at last to bring me safe to the shore of peace and happiness. "You put a good face upon the matter," said they. To which I replied, "I have always thought *that* the best way, since I read what happened to the illustrious Julius Cæsar, on his landing in Britain. He was the first who set foot upon the Island; and, in his eagerness to land, he fell, and his hands stuck in the mud. On his rising, he held them out with a look of despair, considering this as a most unfortunate omen; when immediately the presence of mind of his soldiers gave that happy turn to the occurrence, which led to the conquest of the Country. 'You ought,' said they, 'to look on this as a most fortunate event; for by it you have taken immediate possession of the Island.' You see here, my friends, the fruits of looking on the best side of things; and I think you must allow, that the fall of Julius was at first quite as unlucky, as this ducking of

mine in the tub." My friends applauded my philosophy, and we sat down very cheerfully to breakfast.

Although money can in general procure most of the comforts of life, yet I have never been able to discover, that it could subdue the invincible obstinacy and stupidity of waiters at taverns; who, for the most part, cannot be made to move out of their ordinary pace,—a circumstance which I have always found a considerable tax upon my patience. During my stay at this inn, I was highly amused by the careless blunders of the waiter who attended us; one of which I shall just now mention. I took particular notice of the regular motion of his feet, for it appeared to me, as if he had adopted the cotillion step, or time of $\frac{6}{8}$; and if ever he was stimulated to the exertion of a quicker motion, it was ten to one but he made some gross mistake in the orders given, as if he had really been deaf from his in-

fancy, which was fully exemplified in the following instance:—Two gentlemen came to the inn, whose names were, as it should seem, somewhat uncommon, Mr. Mogg and Mr. Porter; and who, it appeared, were members of the Poets' Club, some of whom were at that time at our table. Upon these two gentlemen being introduced into the room, Mr. Bottomlow, the landlord, very cordially addressed them thus: "Come, Mogg and Porter, sit down and warm yourselves between us, near the fire." The waiter, as usual, wholly inattentive to the business requiring his care, and listening only to the conversation passing between the two gentlemen and his master, according to the usual system of this sort of people, answered directly three times, "Yes, Sir!" (as I have since found it is the universal custom to answer), and having caught only half the sound, instantly quitted the room with unusual activity, and soon returned with a mug of warm

porter, which he presented to the company. At this gross mistake, poor Bottomlow, the landlord, expressed great uneasiness; but Mr. Mogg and Mr. Porter enjoyed the joke with abundance of good humour, and entertained the company with several anecdotes of similar mistakes with respect to names, enlivened with so much humour, that it was impossible not to feel a more than ordinary degree of friendship for them both; and, for my own part, I must candidly confess, that I passed so very pleasant an evening in their society, that it was with no small regret I found myself under the necessity of making preparations the following day for my journey to London.

I cannot sufficiently express the astonishment which I felt, on first beholding a stage coach; a machine which, according to my conceptions, was adapted to any purpose rather than that for which it was intended; having a short and narrow carriage, upon

which was suspended a most enormous body out of all proportion, and besides so loaded on the top with passengers and luggage, as to give the whole the resemblance of the Tower of Babel. It was not without very uneasy sensations that I ventured into a carriage of this kind, in the construction of which it appeared very clearly to me, that the safety of the lives of his Majesty's liege subjects had been only a secondary consideration; for, there being nothing to counterbalance so unwieldy a body, the coach must be liable to be overturned by slight accidents, to the very great risk of the passengers. Fortunately, however, we arrived in London, without any material accident; and, pursuing the directions given to me by Mr. Mills, I drove immediately to the house of his friend, Mr. McMahon, adjoining to the Opera House, in the Hay-Market; where I was received by him in such a manner, as fully convinced me, that I was not mistaken

in the account I had heard, and the notions I had myself formed, of Irish hospitality.

CHAP. VII.

Descriptive account of medicinal springs and salt mines of Poland—Wild men of the woods unknown in that country—Laughable mistake occasioned by the ringing of bells—Introduction to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire; afterwards to the Prince of Wales—Visit from the Duke of Gloucester—Admitted to the presence of the King and Queen—Attacked by dangerous illness—Curious dream—Visit to Bath, Bristol, and Chester; duped by an impostor in the latter city—Arrival in Dublin; invitation from the Lord Lieutenant—Return to England—Concert at Leeds—Visit to Oxford.

Mr. McMahon welcomed me with such marks of civility and friendship, as excited in me an anxious wish to visit the country, of which he was a native, and so excellent a specimen. I soon discovered, that Mr. McMahon had passed considerable part of

his time abroad; by which he had acquired a general knowledge of the customs and manners of many nations which he had visited. He possessed also a sweetness of disposition, a readiness of communication, and a general pleasantry, which are seldom to be attained by a constant residence at home; and which, all combined, rendered him one of the most agreeable and desirable companions imaginable.

Having expressed a wish to be informed of the curious productions of my country, I readily communicated to him whatever at first presented itself to my recollection; and mentioned the astonishing virtues of an ebbing and flowing spring, in the palatinate of Cracow,—similar to that which, since I have been in England, I have observed at Tideswell, near Buxton in Derbyshire,—possessing wonderful medicinal qualities, tending to the prolongation of life; many of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood having lived to the

age of 150 years and upwards, and in some instances to 200. This spring, which may justly be stated one of the phenomena of nature, rises, to the best of my recollection, not far distant from the Wielieska and Bochnia, in the neighbourhood of the salt mines; which naturally led me to speak of those most striking objects of natural curiosity, out of whose wonderful caverns are dug four distinct kinds of salt; one extremely hard resembling crystal, another soft and transparent, a third white but brittle, and all of them brackish, but the fourth considerably less pungent than the rest. These are all dug about six miles from Cracow. On one side of the mines is a stream of salt water; and on the other, one of fresh.

My account of these and other particulars led me, of course, into a much wider and more extended field of description, than I will now trouble my readers with; and I had the supreme felicity to find, that what I had

said, gave some satisfaction to my friend, who became more and more anxious to be informed, as if his appetite increased by what it fed on. He was, above all, particularly solicitous to be satisfied, as to the truth of the several accounts which he had read and heard, respecting wild men of the woods in Poland; and although I felt a certain degree of unwillingness to enter into this detail, inasmuch as I must, of necessity, palpably expose and contradict all that had been hitherto written on the subject, and give the lie direct to numerous writers; many of whom, for the mere purpose of making a book, had invented the most ridiculous and fabulous stories, in order to swell the number of their pages; whilst others, affecting an air of greater plausibility, had endeavoured to impress upon the minds of their readers a belief, that the neighbouring barbarous nations frequently bore off whole villages of people into slavery, compelling the women to carry or leave be-

hind in the woods, their children, to be nurtured by the bears,—yet a strict regard to truth compelled me to expose the gross absurdity of all these stories. And I could not refrain from observing, that the writers who had thus attempted to impose upon the world, had either never considered the natural feeling of the mothers of these poor infants; or they had ventured to write upon the subject with that degree of confidence which they assumed, because that part of the country, in which such things are stated to have happened, lies in so remote a part of the globe, that they could not, or would not, give themselves the trouble of inquiring into the truth of their statements: but being desirous, at all events, to relate some wonderful particulars respecting that corner of the world, they had introduced into their works, miracles surpassing that of the delivery of Daniel from the lions. I was, however, compelled to assure Mr. McMahon, that I could not recollect a single instance in which

a Polish child was so happy as to be delivered from the paws of the bears, as Daniel had been from the jaws of the lion; and that, therefore, I should not have any very considerable degree of confidence in committing my own children to so polished a mode of education. Mr. McMahon, upon this, took notice of the disposition of the parent bird. He observed, that, although, according to its nature and habits, it was accustomed to leave its young when at a sufficient age to be able to provide for themselves; yet he could by no means from thence be led to infer, that a mother could, from any motive, be induced to leave her child behind her in the wood; and therefore, we both concluded, that the whole accounts were erroneously reported in the Polish history.

From this, the conversation became general; and the astonishing fund of anecdote and information possessed by my companion, pleasantly beguiled the hours. I was pro-

ceeding, in answer to his questions, to state, that my parents were born in the palatinate of Kiow, in Ukraine, in the Lower Padolia, which lies east from the Upper Volhinia, and not far distant from the river Borysthenes; when my narrative was interrupted, by the servant introducing coffee. On my taking the first cup, I heard a bell passing in the street, of which I did not take any notice, till it approached the door of Mr. M^{c}Mahon; upon which I instantly made the sign of the cross, and bent my knees; from which circumstance, he and his friend (a comedian who was in company) immediately knowing me to be a stranger in the country, determined to amuse themselves at my expence, and accordingly, they began their devotions. The bells in the street never ceasing, we of course continued our prayers, till at length I observed the countenance of the comedian most wonderfully distorted, as if he had received a paralytic stroke, or got

some disorder in his body, causing the most horrid grimaces. I endeavoured in vain to resume my cup of coffee; for, no sooner had it reached my lips, than tinkle tinkle again went the bell; down I dropt on my knees, and I could not finish a single cup. At length, I was induced to enquire into the reason why so many priests were employed in the streets; and you will imagine, that the answer did not prove at all satisfactory to me, when Mr. McMahon informed me, that I had arrived just at the commencement of the plague, and that the whole town was in a state of grievous desolation and trouble.

Whilst I was listening to this information, the comedian was rehearsing his part of the joke in an adjoining room, and began to cry out, in the most piteous tones, "Lord have mercy upon us, there are four fallen down dead in the street;" and made the sign of the cross with such contortions, that he appeared to me to be possessed with a devil. But when

I observed the wonderful change in his countenance, I concluded that he was affected by a spasmodic complaint, and I repeatedly requested him to send for a doctor; but whilst I was speaking, the bell again began; our prayers of course followed; and I immediately declared my determination of quitting the town, since I was not yet in a hurry to join the dead. Upon which Mr. McMahon, perceiving me serious, observed, that he found I had not acquired an intimate knowledge of the history of England, or I should have known, that, on the Reformation, in the time of King Henry VIII., that monarch declared himself Supreme Head of the Church of England; that one of his first acts, in the exercise of his spiritual jurisdiction, was the total suppression of the existing priesthood, and an abolition of the ceremonials of the church; and that, therefore, since he had thus commenced Shepherd of the English flock, we no longer behold the

host, or priests in the streets ; and, as liberty of conscience was allowed, there was not any occasion for persons to visit the dwellings of the people. He concluded with intreating me, no more to regard the bells that I heard, which only served to announce the postman's passing by. Although this information composed my mind at the moment, yet it was a considerable time before I became perfectly familiarized to the sound of the bells. At length, however, by habit, and the well-timed raillery of my friend, I became as reconciled to it as the English themselves.

After having for some time enjoyed the agreeable society and instructive conversation of my friend, I felt the necessity of turning my attention to other considerations which more immediately affected my own individual interest, and of preparing to act my part upon another stage. As I possessed letters of recommendation to several of the first nobility in the kingdom, I consulted Mr.

McMahon, on the propriety of making use of them; who readily agreed with me, that no time was to be lost in making my application, particularly to their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire; and although I had every where heard them praised and extolled, in the highest degree, for their politeness, affability, and desire to please; yet their gracious reception of me so far exceeded my most sanguine expectations, that any attempt, on my part, to describe it, would fall very far short of the justice which I owe them. His Grace the Duke did not join us in the conversation: I observed that he was absorbed in thought. Very likely his Grace might be one of the administration at this time, which was during the American war.

As I was going to take my leave of the Duke and Duchess, I was presented to Lady Spencer, who was so kind as to appoint a day to receive me at her house. There I had the honour of seeing his Royal Highness

the Prince of Wales, to whom Lady Spencer graciously presented me; and the Prince received me with his usual affability, which deservedly gains him universal esteem. I was, about this time, honoured with a visit from his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, at whose door I had called, as soon as I arrived, to deliver a letter which his Highness the Margrave of Anspach had favoured me with for him. As I was not fortunate enough to find the Duke at home, he thought proper to surprise me by a visit *incognito*. Mr. Cramer, first violin performer at his Majesty's concerts, was then with me, who, being known to the Royal Duke, disappointed his intention of being unknown; and his Royal Highness assured me, that he would do every thing in his power to oblige me. From that time, this amiable Prince has not failed to favour me with proofs of his protection, of which I shall speak more at large in the sequel.

The Duchess of Devonshire and her whole family still continued their promise, to take the most lively interest in all that concerned me, conscious that my situation was beneath my birth, education, and sentiments. She kindly recommended me to all her acquaintance; in the number of whom I must distinguish the Countess of Egremont, who, being informed that mention had been made of me at court, stuffed one of my shoes with cotton, and sent it to the Queen. This exciting their curiosity, their Majesties condescended to appoint a day for me to wait on them. It is to the Countess of Egremont that I am indebted for this honour, who was so kind as to take me to her Majesty. The King and all the Royal family were present. His Majesty desired me to sit down, and put several questions to me. The conversation was often interrupted by the witty and agreeable sallies of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The young Princes and Princesses,

having recovered from the astonishment I had caused them, entered into those familiarities with me, which were becoming youth of their high rank. I had the honour of remaining four hours with their Majesties; who, I flatter myself, were pleased with my efforts to entertain them. These efforts were, however, nearly fatal to me; for I returned with a fever, and the very next day I was dangerously ill. His Majesty was so kind as to send me his physician, Sir Richard Jebb, by whose attention, and that of my good friend Dr. Walker, I recovered in a fortnight.

Various rumours were at that time circulated respecting my visit to court; and it was mentioned in some newspapers, that I had received a considerable sum of money from their Majesties. These reports were, as usual, founded on conjecture only; for, had they the least foundation in truth, I would not have omitted to mention the par-

ticulars, as I consider it my duty to declare all the favours I have been indulged with. The fact is, that his Majesty vouchsafed to treat me as a Polish gentleman; and, though it be an honour to receive favours from a king, these marks of Royal condescension obliterated in me every idea of personal interest. I was compelled to suppress the dictates of self-love, when the matter in question was to provide for the subsistence of life. It could not be of any use to apply to those, who had never experienced want, to feel for my situation; nor could I expect any thing from national interest. Sir Robert Murray Keith had given me many letters for his friends in England; and assured me, a thousand times, that I could not fail to make a splendid fortune there, so sanguine were his feelings for his country. But he never declared to me, that I must exhibit myself. The hopes, with which he had inspired me, I found an empty shadow; and I

was obliged, on my arrival in London, to adopt the plan suggested by his friends to me, of exhibiting myself. These circumstances made such an impression on my mind, that I dreamt the following dream:— A stupendous giant appeared before me: he had a pleasing countenance, and strength in proportion to his bulk. At first, I was astonished and remained for some time mute; when, perceiving that I was rather uneasy, he said to me, "Do not fear me, I am your friend, and I will introduce you to the knowledge of the world." Then, stooping very low, he offered me his hand, and paid me a genteel compliment, drew me near to him as close as possible, and lifted me up over a country, where I saw the lake Asphaltites, which I had heard of before. He then threw me down, and I fell into that dead sea. I began to float upon the top, where I saw something rise up, resembling bulls without heads: I continued swimming with difficulty,

and at last reached the bank, where I found trees that bear fruit of divers kinds, like apples, which were fair and pleasant to the eye. After viewing them very eagerly (for I was nearly exhausted with want), I pulled and opened some, but found nothing but dust. I could find no Joseph to explain this dream, nor did I experience the least change in my situation. I was advised to give a concert, and afterwards, I was prevailed upon to make an exhibition of myself.

The pressure of want, and hope of success, overcame all those emotions in my heart, that made the expedient seem so shocking. I gave my first concert by the advice of their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. In truth, I was frightened at the expence, which amounted to a very considerable sum ; but I was amply indemnified, the assembly being both brilliant and numerous. Had the enthusiasm continued, some concerts given now and then, would have placed

me above want. This, however, was not the case; for, having attempted to give another a few weeks after in the same place, the receipts scarcely cleared my expences. I was consequently obliged to think of some new means to support myself.

At the beginning of the winter following, I went to Bath, where I met with many persons who seemed to entertain a friendship for me. I had not been long there, before the arrival of the learned pig was announced in that city. The proprietor of that wonderful animal, bringing with him from London strong recommendations of its abilities, attracted crowded audiences of all the gentry; so that I thought it most prudent to return to London. On my arrival, respect led me to the door of Lady Clermont; who received me with her usual politeness, and related to me the whole of her conversation with her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, who had expressed her concern at my situation, and

said I should soon be convinced of it. This conversation brought to my mind a meeting of many lords in my apartment, about six months before, the purport of which was, to open a subscription, to secure me an easy and decent maintenance for the remainder of my days. I flattered myself, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire would have been at the head of the subscription: they had often questioned me respecting my situation, and the concern they seemed to feel for it, was so striking, that, for a while, I really flattered myself the intended subscription would take place. But it failed, and I lost all hopes of an immediate amelioration of my circumstances.

However gloomy may be the general aspect of winter, the sun sometimes smiles in spite of the season—resistless in the power of his brightness, the least ray of which will melt the frozen snow. Equally cheering to me, in this winter of my fate, was the appear-

ance of the Misses Metcalfe, whose names I am forbid to mention. Whilst kindly meditating deeds of beneficence, they asked me many questions, with that affability and feeling concern, which, far from denoting an eager curiosity, only waited for an answer, that might give them an opportunity of endeavouring to assist me. They did not approve of my giving a concert, much less of my making an exhibition of myself. Their noble souls, replete with elevated sentiments, looked upon this exhibition with disdain, though they did not openly disclose their mind on the occasion; and I was therefore compelled to try some other plan, as the visits I received would by no means support my expences.

I determined to renew my concerts, the profits of which afforded me a temporary relief. With this determination I set out for Ireland; but, foreseeing this trip would be longer than I expected, I stopped at Bristol, intending to leave it in a week. I, however,

remained there two months, and had no reason to complain; for, though I did not intend to stay so long, I enjoyed every satisfaction I could wish, which I attribute, in part, to the marks of friendship shewn me by Mr. Crespigny, and the generous disposition of the inhabitants of this truly opulent city, who honoured me with many distinguished testimonies of their benevolence, and proved themselves to be as elevated in sentiment, as their city is in splendour.

From Bristol I went to Chester, where the civilities and kindness I met with detained me some weeks. It was during my stay there I got acquainted with one of those men, who, having received from nature good abilities and a good appearance, think themselves exempt from the trouble of being provided with principles of honour and integrity; and who, compelled through their misconduct to leave their own country, establish themselves in foreign lands, abusing the

credulity and good faith of those whom they find means to inspire with confidence. This man assumed the name of the Marquis de Montpellier, and for a while was very cautious not to come to my apartments but among great people, with whom he strove to act an officious part, in order to give me a good opinion of his connexions. Nor did he fail in his design: for he artfully persuaded me, that he was in habits of intimacy with the first nobility of Ireland; that, if he would attempt it, nothing could be so easy as for him to procure me there a subscription of two thousand guineas; and that, for this purpose, he had only to set out before me, to secure a house, and announce my coming, in order to prepare their minds for my reception; so that I could not help giving credit to all the chimeras he amused me with. Thus, the pretended Marquis set out, invested with full power, and I followed him in a fortnight after.

I recollect, I had a fortunate passage, and as Lady Clermont had condescended to give me a letter to the master of the packet, I had much reason to be pleased with the attention and care of the Captain, and all his crew; who, notwithstanding my pressing entreaties, would not accept the smallest remuneration for their trouble. On my arrival in Dublin, I hoped to find a house ready for me; but was extremely surprised at meeting my pretended friend, at an inn near the port, where he had announced me as a great lord. And, thanks to his provident care, I fared very daintily, not yet perceiving that I was his dupe. Nay, it was not till a fortnight after, that, being informed by a respectable person, both of the pretended Marquis's character, and the harm that such an acquaintance would do me, I had wisdom enough to get rid of this parasite, by giving him money to cross the sea again.

When I set out from London, many of my acquaintances had been so attentive as to supply me with letters of recommendation, as well to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, as to the chief lords and most of the distinguished ladies in Ireland. My Lord Viceroy sent me an invitation to his court on an assembly day; and, if I may judge from the reception I met with, I afforded them much pleasure. Some time after, he was succeeded by his Grace the Duke of Rutland, under whose patronage and that of the Duchess, I had the honour to give the Irish nobility a concert at the rotunda. The assembly was extremely brilliant, and her Grace the Vice-Queen was the principal ornament of it. The Duke, unfortunately, the very same night found himself indisposed, on which account I was deprived of the honour of his presence. His Grace's illness gave great uneasiness to the inhabitants of Dublin; but, by the skill of his eminent physician, who ordered him to take exer-

cise in the open air, he speedily recovered. His Grace hunted the next day in his park. His complaint was the head-ach, which in general seized him in the afternoon. It had been long observed that he had a bad digestion, and of that complaint he died, greatly regretted by those who knew him.

After remaining two years in Ireland, which was longer than I intended, in compliance with several pressing intreaties, I returned to England; and, travelling rapidly through Liverpool, Manchester, and Halifax, arrived at Leeds, where I intended to give a concert, to defray my expences on the road; but found it, upon trial, to be impracticable, as a society of amateurs were there, who did not wish to oblige performers that were strangers, and who would not allow any of those who played with them, to be engaged on any account. Fortunately, I had the patronage of Colonel Wood, who, by his great exertion and kindness, procured from the neigh-

bouring towns performers, who attracted me a most elegant, profitable, and numerous assembly; for which the gallant Colonel deserves to be mentioned in this page, and his name engraven on my heart.

This concert gained me some reputation; and, in consequence, the inhabitants of the town ran eagerly to see me. Amongst my visitors, I received into my apartments a lady, who might, in size, dispute the palm with the celebrated Daniel Lambert. All present fixed their eyes upon her, with surprise; but the laws of good breeding soon repressed our astonishment. Colonel Wood, with his usual politeness, offered her his seat upon the sofa; and we began a lively conversation, in which the lady did not join, listening, however, with an air of contempt, This behaviour displeased the whole company; upon which, Colonel Wood winked at me, as much as to say, take no notice of her; and I took this hint. But she seized the moment of silence, and asked

me what religion I professed? "Madam," I replied, "I am a Roman Catholic." I saw her instantly turn her head, with a singular grimace, saying, there was no hope for me to go to heaven. "Excuse me, Madam," said I, "don't be so hasty in judging of such serious matters; we find in holy writ, that narrow is the gate to heaven." She said, she knew that. Then I replied, "I hope I have more chance than you;" looking, at the same moment, at her broad bulky shape, similar to that of Bacchus. The Colonel and the rest of the company could not refrain from laughing; and the lady was obliged to bid me adieu, and take her departure, with the idea I should never meet her in heaven. Perhaps she forgot the difference of our size, and did not consider how much she must be reduced, to be adapted to the measure of the gate. However, some one present, pleased with our brisk conversation, next day put it in the newspapers. But I was not informed

of the public opinion, what side they thought right or wrong, being obliged immediately to set out.

I passed rapidly through Birmingham, in order to be, at the time appointed, at Oxford, where I made a considerable stay; not losing any time for my own affairs, but merely to examine this truly wonderful University, which must be the admiration of all strangers, such is the magnificent and noble architecture of its colleges and halls. But there is no occasion for my being particular, as it has already been amply described by the best writers. Nothing is left for me, but to observe, that Britain must be a blessed nation, and the admiration of the world; for she opens the door of all kinds of knowledge to the children of her land, and is like a loving mother presenting her breast, to feed her hungry infants.

CHAP. VIII.

Visit to Blenheim ; polite reception from the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough—Count Oginski patronizes a concert—Interview with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—Introduction to the Prince de Mecklenburgh—Arrival at Norwich, and concert there—Invitation to Braken, and kindness of Mrs. Brown—Treacherous conduct of a Frenchman—Description of Cambridge—Arrival at Bury St. Edmunds ; kindness of the family of Metcalfe—Journey through York to Edinburgh—Eulogium on Scotland—Departure through England for France—Arrival at Boulogne and Paris ; departure thence to Cherburg and Guernsey. Description of the island and its inhabitants.

DURING the time I remained at Oxford, one day a gentleman came and desired me to go and spend the evening, at about eight or nine miles distance. He would not tell the

place, but assured me, that a carriage should take me thither, and I should not repent my visit. I complied with his request; and how great was my surprise, when I found myself conveyed to the splendid palace of Blenheim, where their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough welcomed me in the most affable manner! The Duchess herself vouchsafed to shew me the apartments, and point out all the curiosities they contain.

On my return home from Blenheim, I was informed, that his Grace the Duke of Marlborough wished to have one of my shoes, to place in his cabinet among other rarities. I had too much reason to be flattered with this nobleman's affability, not to send him a pair of them immediately, to which I joined the only pair of boots I ever had made for me, which I brought from Poland; and his Grace was very well pleased, I heard, with this mark of attention.

At length I returned to London, after

about three years' absence. I met there the Grand General of Lithuania, Count Oginski, who had shewn me so much kindness during my stay at Paris. He seemed to take much pleasure in seeing me again, and promised to assist me on all occasions with his name and credit. Therefore, this was a most favourable opportunity for me to perform another concert, under the patronage of this amiable Count, so approved for talents of every kind, and who had deigned to teach me the first principles of music.

The day appointed was the 30th of June, to the best of my recollection, and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales promised to be present. He had at dinner with him, on that day, his Highness the Prince de Mecklenburgh; and, wishing to introduce me to this Prince, he sent his carriage for me. I found their Highnesses at table, with whom I sat down a full hour, and from thence set out for the concert. Though it was tolerably

well attended, and the company very select, yet I should have suffered a loss, if the generous Count Oginski had not paid Mr. Galini all the charges of it.

An erroneous report had been propagated of the Count, that he was king for three days; and there cannot be a doubt that, from his abilities and virtue, he was entitled to the crown. However, the fact is this,—he was proposed as a candidate; but, according to my recollection, the Court of Petersburgh, having a friendship of many years' standing with Stanislaus Poniatowski, by whom Catharine Empress of Russia, obtained her influence in the political affairs of Poland, she appointed her friend Poniatowski to be King of Poland. Therefore, Count Oginski was disappointed, by the opposition of this strong party of 89,000 of the Russian army. I shall not enter into a particular account of this proceeding, since I keep a journal merely of my own actions.

After the departure of Count Oginski, I set out for Norwich. On my arrival there, I was informed of the grand Oratorios, about which the whole town was in a state of rapture. Mrs. Siddons was also engaged to perform every night at the theatre.

The week after the Oratorios were over, Mr. Cramer, having heard of me, came to see me, and persuaded me to give a concert; offering me every assistance in his power, and telling me, if I could get Mrs. Siddons to appear at the Assembly Rooms, I should have the whole town. So my good friend Cramer consulted with me what was best to be done. We applied to a lady of rank, and she wrote Mrs. Siddons a letter, replete with the most tender expressions: in the conclusion, she said, "I make no doubt, from your extreme fine feelings, of your complying with my request, and I expect much pleasure in seeing you at the concert." Mrs. S. returned an answer, that a previous engagement prevented her having the pleasure of attending it.

I regretted extremely that I was thus deprived of the powerful aid, which I should have received from the patronage of a lady, so universally admired for her unrivalled talents, and numbering so many persons of distinguished rank among her friends. Immediately after Mrs. Siddons's departure, it happened that Mr. Mathews, one of the most eminent comic actors of the age, arrived in Norwich, and was announced to perform on the same night for which my concert was advertised. This gentleman, however, with his accustomed generosity and politeness, put off his performance to a future time, rather than I should suffer by the competition. I cannot omit this opportunity of paying my humble tribute of friendship to that worthy individual, in whose society I have since passed many pleasant hours.

A few days after my concert, Mrs. B——, a lady of great consequence, sent me an invitation to go to Braken, about six miles from the town. This amiable lady gave me a

gracious reception. By her greatness of soul the public must know her; as she cannot disguise her bounty, it being written with indelible characters in the hearts of many unhappy creatures, whom she relieved from their calamities, both in town and country, in a manner as judicious as charitable. Perceiving that I had not been accustomed to dependence, even on the public, she considered my situation as the more painful and humiliating to my feelings. Her great goodness induced her to set forward a subscription; and, from this, I perceived a good prospect of a decent maintenance.

But here, may I be permitted to fix my reader's attention for a moment, and beg him to take notice of the cruel event which took place? Having soon afterwards visited Paris, a Frenchman, of the name of Dertreval (who possessed an amazing stock of wickedness in his mind), artfully laid a plan, which deprived me of the confidence of my protectress.

This fellow, renouncing all pretensions to honour as well as to virtue, and disgracing the name of his nation, like an evil spirit concealed under a human shape, watched for an opportunity to deceive, which he found the moment I arrived in the French metropolis. I fell dangerously ill; and when the physician gave little hopes of my recovery, this villain forged a letter in my name, and demanded the whole of the money from this benevolent lady. My name wss necessary at the bottom of the letter, as I had desired him to write for the sum of twenty pounds. He read to me a letter, which I thought a very proper one; but he had another artfully concealed, which he slipped into my hand, and I signed this treacherous letter, without perceiving the deception. Thus I became a victim to the wiles of a tempter, of whom I was totally ignorant; but if I have suffered in the opinion of the amiable Mrs. B——, this will not acquit me of the gratitude I

owe to her: the remembrance of her kindness must remain with me, and be carried in my heart.

I had long intended to travel through Scotland, for which country the same Mrs. B——, to whom I was under such obligations, gave me several letters of recommendation, and I set out for Scotland. But this being rather a long trip, I took, in my way, the University of Cambridge, where I stopped; for which place my benefactress, Miss Metcalfe, sent me a letter of introduction. This powerful letter opened me the door of the whole University; and if it is allowed to me to give a little sketch, I will try to describe some particulars which I recollect of it. There are twelve colleges, and four halls. The Senate-House is a most beautiful edifice. Trinity College, with its library, is also a grand and noble structure. In the library of Corpus Christi College is a wonderful collection of manuscripts of the

ancient writers, which was preserved at the destruction of the monasteries, as the master of the college informed me. This surprising University is not so wonderful for its architectural splendour, as for its antiquity and depth of science.

The town of Cambridge cannot be compared to Oxford, where the colleges give such advantage, and so beautify the place. As far as I recollect, Cambridge is not equal to it in that respect. But the affability of the gownsmen, and the politeness of the inhabitants, attract the attention of the stranger; and it is with regret he parts from them. What made me leave Cambridge sooner than I had intended, was this:—I found that Bury St. Edmund's was not far off, where the worthy family of Metcalfe had a residence; and I considered this the best opportunity I could have to perform my duty, and pay my respects to them. Consequently, the day after my concert, which was very brilliant, I

left Cambridge; and arrived in the evening at Bury St. Edmund's, and found that the whole of this amiable family was at their country seat, to the best of my recollection, about a mile from the town. They received me with an affability, which I found even much more gratifying, than the highest degree of their bounty. They condescended to procure me a comfortable lodging in the town; and, to prove the liberal sentiments of their mind, paid all expences during my stay. I esteem it not the smallest favour, that Miss Margaret Metcalfe asked me many questions concerning the situation of my present affairs, dictated not by curiosity, but purely by the goodness of her mind, which took an intire interest in my welfare. I concealed nothing, but took the liberty to inform her of all particulars, and of the amiable Mrs. B—— having opened a subscription at Norwich.

At hearing this last part of my affairs re-

ported, my benefactress was much gratified; and, soon after, honoured me with an additional proof of her liberality, by raising a sum of money, and sending it to Mrs. B——, at Norwich. I found my soul deeply impressed with admiration of her kindness, conferred in so noble a way; and my heart was ready to cry out with joy, when I reflected how carefully my welfare was watched over by my protectress. For, as the sun peeps through the gloomy sky, to ripen the little mustard seed; so did the brightness of her eye, beaming with generosity, shine on my humble merits, and disperse the dark cloud of my adversity. During my stay at Bury St. Edmund's, this excellent family honoured me so far, as to interest themselves in patronising my concert; and gave me an immediate proof of their eagerness to serve me, by presiding at my benefit. The company was brilliant and numerous: I cannot compare it to any thing but a London audience. But this was

not surprising, as all the town and its environs waited for an opportunity to oblige them; so far had they gained the affection of their friends, by a goodness which is deserving every blessing.

After this profitable concert, which enabled me to pay all expences, more than what were incurred on my journey to Scotland, I in a few days took leave of my benefactors, and set out for Edinburgh; but, as Bury St. Edmund's was rather out of my road, I was obliged to cross Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, and to come to York, where I found the direct road to Edinburgh.

On my arrival in the Scottish metropolis, I paid my respects to Lord Dumfries; and, having delivered a letter of recommendation, I was made truly happy by the most gracious and cordial reception. This illustrious house of Dumfries, comprehending the Countess of Loudon, at present Lady Moira, deigned immediately to introduce me among the circle

of their first friends ; where I had the honour to become acquainted with the amiable Colonel Hope and his worthy brother, who seemed to take the most lively interest and the greatest pleasure, in all that related to me. The Colonel conferred on me the honour of his patronage ; and, finding that a concert would be more proper than any thing that could be done, he took the management of it entirely into his own hands, and conducted the business for my welfare. To give his own endeavours additional strength, he moved the hearts of his friends, among whom were their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh, the Countess of Loudon, and, through her influence, Lord Moira, Commander in Chief in Scotland ; therefore, it was impossible for the concert to fail under such noble auspices. In fact, the Colonel's powerful influence and exertions procured me a numerous and brilliant assembly. For this generous conduct of Colonel Hope, I am bound to entertain

the most lively sentiments of gratitude. This concert terminated with a ball; which procured me two advantages—a considerable sum of money, and the opportunity of forming an acquaintance with the most respectable persons of that city. I passed some weeks in Edinburgh most pleasantly, and was so fortunate as to attract the particular attention of that generous and amiable people.

My sentiments by no means accord with those of the great Dr. Johnson, from whom, I am afraid, the Scottish nation did not meet with an equal return, for the kindness he received from their generous hearts; for I have been told, he wrote a Journey, in which, thinking it would be beneath him to acknowledge some obligations due to them, he employed his pen in a description of their manner of living, education, and Universities, so low and so offensive, as to disoblige the whole nation. But, for my part, I at first gave little credit to this report, concerning a man of such

knowledge, as I expected more liberal sentiments from the high abilities, and strength of sense and reason, which he was known to possess. Therefore, I could not help taking his part, and I defended his cause with some degree of enthusiasm ; at which time, a gentleman, in whom I found a very strenuous opponent, and who was a bitter enemy of Dr. Johnson, obliged me to give up my defence ; and proved to me, that the Doctor, with all his scholastic learning, was a good deal similar to highly polished steel at Sheffield : for when this beautiful work is divested of its polish, we find only a rough and unsightly appearance. At hearing this, I was put to silence, and was soon brought to acknowledge my error ; finding Scotland equal to any nation, both in the richness of its soil, and beauty of its situation : their manner of living is splendid and luxurious ; and the candour, probity, frankness, and affability, of this truly amiable and benevolent nation, would render a desert delightful.

My mind differs in sentiment from this great writer, Dr. Johnson; and how can I disguise the truth! for I feel myself full of gratitude, when I reflect on the gracious reception I met with. If I am asked, (as indeed I expect to be,) how I could boldly venture to compare the richness of the soil of Scotland to that of other countries, I could easily reply—that they who are best acquainted with Scotland, very well know that that nation never begs assistance of her neighbours, to support her wants, either in agriculture or in science, as she has both in the greatest perfection. Their Universities, however ungenerously described, have, in fact, Professors of the greatest knowledge. At the University of Edinburgh, Dr. Hope is particularly eminent for his depth in science. It must be understood, too, that the Scotch nation is as rich in agriculture as in science, having very experienced farmers.

The south and west parts of Scotland a-

bound in minerals, and are extremely fertile, and the ground is well cultivated; but I observed, not only this part of the country, but in general all the kingdom, to be well provided with corn. I include the islands of Shetland, the Orknies, and the Hebrides; the soil of which abundantly furnishes the inhabitants with corn, and also with vegetables, and other productions of the garden. There are likewise marle, slate, and quarries of marble and of freestone, together with tin, lead, and silver mines. The lakes and rivulets abound with excellent fish. Gentlemen of property may live there with elegance, having good things in profusion; and the common people, very comfortably. The buildings in these islands are much superior to what Dr. Johnson has described them to be; and the manners of the inhabitants, civil and hospitable;—but that is their national character. I recollect, with pleasure, my first introduction to Scottish society, at Colonel

Hope's; where I found elegant apartments, adorned with beautiful women, polite in their manners, and lively in their conversation. The natural bloom of their complexions, their majestic air, and graceful behaviour, must strike every foreigner with admiration: in short, in my journey through Scotland and its islands, I found every thing to my satisfaction.

I was now bound for France; and I resolved to stay at some town, with a view to defray the expences of so long and tedious a journey. I succeeded pretty well at York, Bath, and some other places upon my road; where I received both pleasure and profit, as I had done before, in several parts of this kingdom.

I landed at Boulogne early in the spring, and succeeded in forming an acquaintance with some amateurs in music; who, among many favours, procured me a concert, and very politely performed themselves, to save

my expences. I then set out for Lisle, in Flanders, where I formed an acquaintance with the manager of the playhouse, who offered me his assistance, lent me his stage, and provided performers for my concert; but he wished to go half and half in the expences and profits. I made no objection, but immediately agreed to his proposal. Meantime, I could not have thought this gentleman so learned and deep in his profession as I found him to be: indeed, so admirable a proficient was he in the science of arithmetic, particularly in division, that I could not find any thing for my share of this benefit, but a cypher. Therefore, after this experience from my master, whom I found rather dark in his method of teaching the art of reckoning money, I made my stay short. It was just after the commencement of the revolution, and that extraordinary event engrossed the attention of all: I thought, therefore, I might succeed better in going to Paris.

I arrived in the capital, in June the same year, and had once more the pleasure to see many noblemen, who knew me when I was there before, and who now renewed their civilities. The Marquis D'Amazaga, interested himself in my behalf. I then attempted a concert, which, by no means, answered my expectation, though seconded by the Duchess of Orleans, no less eminent for her benevolence than for her rank; and on mature reflection, I clearly perceived, that all Paris, the ladies not excepted, were absorbed in contemplating their new form of constitution, and that this grand object banished every other idea. I had little to expect from the accustomed urbanity of the French nobility; and my purse, being very low since the twist given it by Dertreval, must have been totally exhausted, had I remained much longer there.

I found that I was swimming against the stream, and therefore resolved to go to Cher-

burg, which is the nearest French port to Guernsey, where I wished to be ; and having made a bargain dear enough with the master of a smack, I went on board the 24th of March ; but, meeting with bad weather, I did not arrive till the 29th at night. Though many in my place would enumerate the imminent dangers they had experienced in this voyage of fifty-four miles, I shall content myself with just saying, I was not sorry when I got on shore. No other loss was sustained, than that of a fowl, which finding itself too closely pent up in the hold, jumped over board, to be more at liberty. I had no room to lie down in this vessel, though only three passengers were on board: however, I was never sea-sick. Our vessel was worked by the Captain, without a sailor. It was called the Little St. John ; but the inhabitants of Guernsey gave it a more proper name, and called it a hencoop.

When I arrived on the island, I delivered

my letters of recommendation, addressed to some of the principal inhabitants. I remained there two months, and gave a concert. The number of handsome ladies who attended it, made a beautiful appearance in the room. This charming island is twenty-one miles in circumference, and the country pleasant and fruitful; for, in so small a compass, they make yearly two hundred and fifty barrels of cyder. The air is good, the water excellent, and trade flourishing. There was a citadel, besides other forts, with batteries of cannon, surrounding this island, though well fortified by nature.

The Governor kindly gave me an invitation on St. George's day, to meet all the officers of the garrison, who were invited to celebrate the King's birth-day. He shewed me every attention, and the rest of the gentlemen were by no means deficient. The favourable reception I met with from the inhabitants of Guernsey, and the pains they

took to serve me, particularly those to whom I was recommended, claim my sincere and most respectful acknowledgments; and I esteem myself much indebted to them.

CHAP. IX.

Return to England—Visit to Hereford and Warwick—Digression—Singular demand at Coventry—Birmingham—Imposition of an innkeeper—Visit to Mr. Boulton's manufactory at Soho—Eulogy on Freemasonry—Arrival at Derby; inundation there—Voyage from Liverpool to Dublin—Noble conduct of the captain of the packet—Serious reflections—Melancholy history of a black cat—Visit to Cork; successful concert there—The butcher's lady and the marrow bone—Excursion to Kinsale; productive and brilliant concert—Voyage to Cork, and turbulence of the sea—Impression made upon me by a lady's nose.

I SAILED from Guernsey in a larger vessel than that which conveyed me to the island; and, on my return to England, visited some towns where I had not been before, especially Hereford, where I stopped some time, and

gave a concert. It was attended by the most distinguished families of the town and neighbourhood, by whom I was loaded with kindness; and, in a more peculiar manner, by the worthy family of Mr. Cam. I must say, Herefordshire, in my opinion, is one of the most fertile counties in England, and celebrated for its cyder. From thence I set out to Coventry, passing through Warwick. The last-mentioned town I found a curious place: I therefore stopped one day to examine it. I beheld a town, situated upon a rock, having the appearance of great antiquity. It may be approached by four ways cut through the rock. All those roads meet four streets, and I found myself conducted to the center of the town; the walls and houses of which have cellars in the rock, as dry as possible, and surprisingly neat.

The town of Warwick makes me recollect, that, in my return from Little Tartary, I took the road nearest adjoining my native coun-

try of Kiow, and passed round a mountain in the deserts of Podolia, under which I found some curious grottos. A little further on, a gentleman stopped me, and politely requested me to take my dinner with him. I accepted his obliging invitation with pleasure, and he kindly conducted me to his house, through enchanting groves, and cut rocks, which, throughout, were extraordinarily brilliant, displaying a number of different colours, of the nature of crystallized mines. I inquired, if metals were found there. He answered me, that those rocks produced precious stones, such as crystal, topaz, jasper, opal, onyx, sapphire, ruby, and spar.

Next, I found a variety of fruit trees planted like a forest, which led to a beautiful cottage, with spacious gardens adjoining to it. At the top of these was a monstrous rock, with a spring of good water, which formed a gentle rivulet, and fell into the river Dniester, with a noise that caused sensations

which would be pleasing to such as like solitude ; or to writers of novels, fond of purling streams. On the other side of the rock was a grand cave, dignified with a most magnificent temple, having an altar richly adorned with wonderful and beautiful stones ; and round the sides and top of the temple were spar, crystal, and stones of various kinds; so that, at the time of divine service, when it was illuminated, the reflection of the light upon those glittering stones, gave an air of magnificent splendour, which, I confess, filled my heart with amazement ; finding, in such a place, so noble a house of God. My host said to me, " If those who are warped in their reason from the truth of facts, could attend solemn service in this temple, they would believe what they have rejected, and ripen in faith ; and not let their ideas wander in clouds, like the Mahometans and some other nations, unfit to be called Christians, who pick up their system of morals,

partly from the Pagan philosophers, and partly from our Holy Book, the best of which they reject, and adopt that which is most consistent with their own loose principles. The monarchs and nobles of those unfortunate people, take example from the pride and the mean sentiments of Holofernes, who confirmed the errors of his master, saying, that there was no other God but Nabuchodonosor."

Pursuing the religious subject into which he had entered, I replied in the following manner: "It has, in general, been observed, that there is much presumption in those whom the Supreme Being has allowed to be above their fellow creatures. We frequently see them blinded by ambition, which is next to folly: but we ought to admire, and should take example from, such great men as David, and his son Solomon; both of whom walked humbly in the sight of God, and were blessed with victory, riches, and wisdom. There

are, however, too many like Nabuchodonosor, who adopt their own imaginary gods and fantastic gospel ; who have reason to blush at hearing the name of David, because the Lord was with him, and he glorified his Maker." With these words, I bid him farewell.

To return from my digression : No sooner had I arrived in the city of Coventry, than a messenger from the Mayor appeared, with a demand for me to pay five pounds, for granting permission to give a concert. By this time I found my pocket rather begin to be low, and sent the following answer by the Mayor's servant: "To-morrow, at one o'clock, you may come, and I will comply with your request." I immediately ordered a post chaise, to be ready at five o'clock next morning, and set out for Birmingham, eighteen miles off, where the worshipful Mayor might find me at the hour appointed.

On my arrival at Birmingham, not having a lodging provided, I was obliged to drive to

the inn. Mr. Sharp, the innkeeper, being a man in the constant practice of receiving strangers, seemed to me to use no ceremony with his newly-arrived friends, but kindly made his appearance in my room, with a bill of his excellent ragouts for dinner; but, to my great disappointment, it was the time of Lent, and I made choice only of a bread pudding. This raised his curiosity, and he asked me, if I were under the Holy Father. "Yes," said I to him. He replied, "I am of the sect of John Wesley;" and at the same time promised, that next day I should have a different kind of pudding. I had now provided myself with lodgings, before I left his house, where I had been five days. I received my bill, in which I found five puddings charged five pounds. I must say, his bill stupified me; but, at last, I recovered from my astonishment, and asked him, if the new gospel of this Apostle Wesley furnished him with this lucrative inspiration; because, in

our Sacred Books, we are prohibited from making such an attack on the pockets of our fellow-creatures. But he would not hear what I said, nor accept of any other terms; so I was obliged to put my money upon the table, and very gladly took my leave of this holy gentleman.

At my new lodgings, a few days after, I fortunately met with a brother Mason, Mr. Bisset, a Scotch gentleman, of genuine politeness, and an open heart. He was secretary and treasurer to the Debating Society, and, through the interest of this worthy man, I was made a member of the same, and honoured with a silver medal, with which Mr. Baddoes, the president, was at that time the only gentleman decorated. Some time after this, I was invited to Mr. Boulton's, of Soho, not far from the town, where I spent an agreeable day in his company; during which time he was pleased to inform me, that Birmingham was originally a village, belonging to

a gentleman of the same name, whose monument I saw next day, in the old church. He gave me a still further account of this extraordinary village, the extension and improvement of which were solely owing to the industry of a man, who introduced the manufacture of gilt buttons. Such a speculation certainly deserves our admiration; but I found Mr. Boulton's machines for coining money, a still more wonderful invention, each of which is capable of striking off one hundred pieces per minute.

Birmingham has the appearance of the first town in Europe, for the invention of every sort of mechanics. I observed, that the inhabitants have no other amusement, but that of employing their whole ingenuity in contriving new machinery. The population is very numerous and opulent. I tried to give a concert, thinking I might succeed; but it turned out like a frosty night upon the blossom of a tree. So finding this was a bad climate to

ripen my fruit, I prepared to depart. But the next day, I had an invitation to go to Henley, to attend the establishment and consecration of a new Free-Masons' Lodge. The particulars of this I cannot give. Meantime, I may be allowed to say, that there is nothing in the world can be compared to the sublime law of Masonry. However its members may differ in their religious professions, there is no dispute, no jealousy among them: all are tolerated, and every thing governed with the greatest harmony and love, no less beneficial to inward virtue, than to external order. Upon such a basis of reason stands the noble law of Free-Masonry. Further information on this subject it would be improper to give; and those who pretend to publish our concerns, must not be relied on, for certainly those authors never professed Masonry.

Writers have thought fit to exercise their wit upon this subject, as they have been in the constant practice of doing upon all others,

of which we have many proofs. By this means, we find most profound philosophers falling into errors; having merely written a heap of conjectures, and obstinately endeavoured to establish their own obscure ideas. As an example, we may take Epicurus's system of the origin of man, and of all other animals, sprung, as he asserts, from the vigorous seeds of the earth. It is a pity, that such a man had so gloomy a prospect of the future state of the soul; but, to conclude the matter in a word, Epicurus should have been sent to the Divine Author of the world, and the Writer on Masonry, to the Master of the Lodge. Then would they have been able to give a perfect account of the facts: otherwise, we can find nothing in their works that can be relied on; for, all truth being concealed from them, both authors must remain full of perplexity and confusion.

I now took my road to Derby, and, on my arrival, procured lodgings on the south side

of the town, situated near the little rivulet called Martin Brook. So far as I can recollect, the situation was pleasant, and the house commodious, having a shop furnished with many good things, luxurious enough to regale the greatest duke; therefore, I determined to treat myself according to my circumstances. Next day, just at the beginning of day-break, my illusion of a feast was turned to a fast. I heard the cry of the watchmen, and found the whole town in alarm and confusion, caused by the unexpected appearance of the deceitful Martin Brook, from whose angry mouth gushed forth torrents of water, which filled whole houses. You may guess the surprise I was thrown into by this deluge, when I found our shop transformed into a lake, in the middle of which was the master in a boat, fishing out isinglass, tea, and coffee. Upon my asking for sugar, they answered me, there were no remains of it to be found. So completely did Martin Brook de-

feat us, that every thing was destroyed in the shop; and we remained in sorrow. I was obliged to be a partner in the business, and lost jubilee. But the sensations of hunger prevailing over those of fear, I requested some milk and bread, which was contrived to be tyed upon a long stick, and conveyed in a boat to the window, by the street. By this means, I obtained a humble breakfast, for which I was very thankful to the donor. After such a victory over the town of Derby, obtained by Martin Brook, we must admire his spirit; but, at the same time, lament his ambition in passing over his limits. I was a witness, from my own window, of the great number of precious things which he swept off in his retreat, and of the piteous lamentations of the inhabitants; and, as I found that it would not repay my time to remain in this distressed place, I determined not to wait for a second visit of Martin Brook.

I now undertook a journey to Ireland, flying like a bird that looks where he can build his nest; and, passing through Cheshire to Lancashire, I reached Liverpool, where I made a bargain with the Captain of a ship, and next day sailed for Dublin. But, to avoid a traveller's story, which often supplies the want of truth, I shall merely relate this simple fact. The Captain, having rather an unpleasant enemy in a contrary wind, and March assisting with his waves, prevented our speedy landing. I saw, with a transport of joy, the village called Black Rock, at a little distance from Dublin. But here is a most dreadful bar, over which we were obliged to pass: we beheld a vessel, that went before us, dashed on that rock, and a woman on the deck, with an infant in her arms, crying to the Lord for mercy. Her voice was heard: our Captain resisted the greatest fury of the sea, approached the vessel, and saved her and the rest of the people; but the vessel

sunk to the bottom, and we, in our ship, remained merely in a state of hope, which I called a poor chance.

After this scene of melancholy was over, and we were approaching the harbour, the Captain, good soul, asked us if we were all well, and recovered from our fear. "Fear!" said I, "how could you think we could be affected with fear, when our minds were occupied with your good action?" He appeared to understand my bad English; for what I said seemed to make some impression upon him, as he expressed, with the greatest zeal, his wish to serve me upon any occasion whatever, and shewed himself worthy the name of a true Englishman, by the proof he gave me of the sincerity of his professions. At our landing, he conducted me to the Royal Marine Hotel, and strictly charged the landlord to pay every attention to my person. The day following, he engaged handsome lodgings near the College Green, and settled

every thing, for fear the people should impose on me; and took me there in such a cheerful manner, as announced the liberal sentiments of his mind. This proceeding reminded me of his humane action abovementioned; which, no doubt, was heroic in its way, and convinced me, that he deserved to be considered on an equality with those great warriors, who, as soon as they have humbled their enemies, become fathers to their people. In short, Captain Fairwood, after having settled my little affairs, bade me farewell, and so disappeared.

Now, that I was left to my solitary reflections on the pilgrimage in which I was engaged, so severely did I feel the disappointments I had experienced, that I could not help thinking, it was well that Providence had blessed me with such a firm determination to act like an upright man; as the world, by the small estimation in which honesty is often held, afforded so strong an inducement

to travellers, like myself, to better their circumstances, by acting like a knave. In the midst of these conflicting thoughts and mournful reflections, a black cat made his appearance, by entering my room. This interruption to my reverie, gave me a new turn of thinking. I could not help admiring the confidence of this creature, in putting his trust in me. I next thought, it must be the principle of his practice to pursue good living, having no other ambition in his nature. On this account, I had no objection to appoint him *Curé* of my parish, and by so doing, he became my constant visitor. About this time, a lady of rank honoured me with a visit, who immediately perceived the black cat sitting on the sofa. She strongly expressed her admiration of his natural beauty; and, touching him with a hand as white as snow, made him proudly stretch himself with joy. In this position, he appeared two feet long, and proportionably fat, as he enjoyed

good living: in fact, she was delighted with him beyond measure, and promised to procure me a number of customers to see him. She kept her word, and in a few days I found my room rather too small, to contain so numerous a company.

Amongst this crowd of amateurs, I met with a gentleman, who was closely inquisitive about the place of his birth; and, although I possessed no information on this point, I yet conferred on him the honour of being a native of Prussia, born at Berlin, and son of the favourite cat of Frederick the Great. I found this rod and artificial fly catch fish from the deepest rivers: his reputation soon spread, he derived an additional lustre from his noble origin, and rapidly became a favourite of the whole town.

This favourable circumstance suggested to me a new project, and I wished to seize the moment of this enthusiasm and rapture of the public, and give him some lessons in

tricks ; for, said I, when I consider the natural sharpness of such animals, and their docility when young, I may expect that, with such advantages, he will become as celebrated as the learned pig, so much admired in England. But, however well digested this plan might be, I could not arrive at such a degree of perfection in it, as to procure any amelioration of my situation ; for my pupil was found to be of a voracious disposition, which these animals have not the sagacity to perceive, must, one day or other, bring their lives to a tragic conclusion. With a treacherous and ambitious design of improving his manner of living, he slyly insinuated himself into the room where some canary birds were kept, and committed murder, with such a cruel mind and premeditated barbarity, that it was almost impossible to find any remains of them. The cat, being found guilty of this heinous crime, without respect to the merciful principles of whole-

some law, had sentence passed on him, by his own master, to be hanged; and which, without delay, was put in execution.

After this unexpected event, it was not of any use for me to remain longer where I was. I, therefore, took my route through the whole of Ireland, beginning with Cork, which is reckoned the second city in that kingdom, for its splendour, opulence, and trade. Small vessels only can approach the city, which stands seven miles up the river Lee. According to my recollection, this is the chief port of merchants in Ireland; and, in truth, there is more beef, tallow, and butter, shipped from hence, than from all the other ports of the kingdom put together.

On my arrival, I found lodgings, most advantageously situated for my purpose, upon the parade, which is a public walk, where are to be seen thousands of the most beautiful women; a number of whom inspire respect and love, equal to that with which

Diotime, who taught Socrates the principles of nature, inspired that philosopher. Whatever may be said, this is indisputably true. Their appearance in society forms a sort of heaven on earth. By them I was first noticed; and their example and kindness to me, were followed by the noble spirit of the citizens, who shewed their liberal mind and concern for my welfare. Among other instances of their bounty, the gentlemen, who were amateurs in music, graciously offered their assistance at my concert; and, to prove the extent of their good dispositions, performed themselves on that night. This act of generosity, which I did not expect, rendered my benefit brilliant and numerous. Amongst the company was observed a lady, that excited the curiosity of the public to know who she was, by the elegance of her dress, and the sweetness of her conversation, together with the quickness of her *repartee;* but, unsuccessful in their attempt at a discovery, they

were obliged to remain satisfied with obscure conjectures, and the late hour of the night forced them to depart.

This lady, of whom I speak, bade me farewell, with a promise to send me a marrow bone. I confess, I understood English imperfectly at that time, and, therefore, I thought she said Mirabeau, not the celebrated one who died during my residence at Paris, but his brother; consequently I gave orders to my servant, should he call, not to admit him. At dinner-time, I heard a loud rap at the hall door, and was eagerly anxious to know who it was; expecting Mirabeau's visit. I opened the door, leading to the staircase, from whence I heard mentioned the name of marrow bone; and, still listening, I heard my servant coming up with another person; in consequence of which, I slipt off to my room, cursing his imprudence, for not obeying the orders of his master. I crept to the closet, peeping through the key-hole, and perceiv-

ing a soup dish upon the table, and the master of the house laughing, probably at my misunderstanding, I came out of my hiding-place. On my appearance, he could not keep his countenance, but said, "There is your Frenchman put into a soup dish." "What is it?" I asked." "They are bones with marrow in them," he replied. "Who is the lady that sent them, and what is her name?" "Mrs. McLennel," he answered, "and she is a butcher's wife." Finding my mistake cleared up with a good dinner, "Sit down," said I, "and take some marrow-bone with me;" but he politely refused, telling me, he was obliged to go immediately with a wig, and dress a lady for a masked ball. When I considered his occupation, in a moment it came into my mind, that this man will no doubt discharge the duties of his profession as a hairdresser; he will inform his customers what has passed in his house, and I must expect some fun at my expence. So it hap-

pened; for the next day the Worshipful the Mayor sent me a polite invitation to dinner. In his card, he gave a witty turn to the incident of the marrow-bone. This circumstance amused the public; and they carried on the joke in a very agreeable manner, probably with a view to afford me a good table: so that marrow-bone became my constant food; and, if I had continued amongst those liberal and generous people, I should not have been surprised, if I had become as fat as marrow. But I was reluctantly obliged to change my place, in compliance with the circumstances of my situation; so I made an excursion to Kinsale, a place beautifully situated at the mouth of the river Bandon, strongly fortified, the town neat and handsomely built, well supplied with provisions, but rather inferior to Cork in point of marrow-bones. I had the honour to be introduced to Lord and Lady Kinsale, whose influence procured me a numerous and select party of their friends to

my concert, which terminated with a most brilliant ball.

After a long stay in this opulent city, the inhabitants of which I found amiable and polite, I set out for Youghall, where I met with a friendly and warm reception from the inhabitants. I had an overflowing concert of the best society, and their attention to me I must ever remember with gratitude. But an unexpected business called me to Cork; and, luckily for me, it was not more than twenty miles distant for me to return. At this time, Captain Somerville of the Navy, intending to sail, kindly proposed to me to take a voyage with him, saying, "There is no difference whether you go by sea or by land, as we shall reach Cork by dinner-time. So I accepted his polite offer, and we sailed; but we had no sooner quitted the harbour, than we perceived a grumbling sea, and lowering sky, announcing a dirge to be sung with a chorus. For my part, I had often met with those

rough receptions, and did not think any thing of it; but I really felt for the situation of the ladies, who are sent to us as a blessing, and I was uneasy on their account.

After all the painful reflections that tormented my mind, considering that the greatest Monarch, had he been on board, would have been treated with the same contempt, I determined to retire to my bed, where I thought to be alone; but the Captain had taken the greatest part of it to himself, and left only a small share to me. However, I settled myself as well as I could, being obliged to keep him behind me. But, to my still greater discomfort, we were both of us soon driven from our quarters; for the fury of the angry sea besieged us with its highest waves, and gave such a blow to the vessel, that the Captain, tumbling me out of bed on the floor, fell upon me; so that I should certainly have been smothered, had not another no less violent motion of the vessel de-

livered me from him. I now thought myself secure from any accident, not perceiving I was so near the ladies; but the vessel at that moment gave such a jump, that the Captain, who had just risen, was thrown down a second time, and in his fall knocked down some of the ladies that were next him; one of whom tumbling upon me, gave me, with her big nose, a monstrous black eye. I must confess, I did not expect such a donation, which I was obliged to keep for some time, having no chance of being soon at Cork, to procure a plaster for it.

We now found ourselves on the coast of Giant's Causeway, and afterwards at the Mull of Cantyre in Scotland, where the wind changed, and drove us to Port Patrick. Meantime, our joy was restored, by the expectation of seeing Cork; and, in the interval of a calm, I proposed to give a feast to my fellow-travellers, by preparing them coffee. As soon as it was ready, we sat down round the table, in great spirits, singing "Rule Britannia." I

asked, who that lady "Britannia" was? The Captain replied, "She is the favourite of the whole nation;" and the lady next me observed, "This great lady is fond of a little flattery like ourselves." During the time of my inquiry, and while our cups were filled with coffee, Neptune, envious of our joy, began groaning; and the insolent waves gave answer to our song, forcing the vessel to bow down in a most humiliating manner, and throwing us to the ground, with the table and its contents upon our heads. To close this wonderful voyage of twelve days, I must be allowed to declare, that it was chiefly owing to the imprudence of the Captain, who had it in his power to land safe at Donaghadee, a short distance from Port Patrick; but, boldly venturing to go to Cork, he exposed his life, with that of many of his friends. Fortunately, however, the wind conducted us close to Waterford, and, with the help of ropes tied to boats, we were brought safe into

port. I shall only observe, with regard to this distress, that any man, however great his courage may be, would, when in the midst of danger, ardently wish to be out of it; and probably would have no hesitation in declaring his wishes, did not his lofty mind direct him to conceal that fear, which the natural love of life so powerfully excites.

I was not sorry to set my feet upon the ground; and, leaving the Captain in his swimming coach, I took a more solid one, and arrived safe at Cork, where they all thought I was drowned. However, the people no sooner perceived me coming to the town, than their hearts overflowed with joy: they surrounded the coach, not with mere curiosity, as I saw by their countenance, but with the rapture of real friendship, and with the greatest care brought me to the hotel. Indeed, I put my trust in them, as in their principles I found they truly deserved the name of good Irish.

CHAP. X.

Visit to the lake of Killarney—Kind reception at Limerick—Friendly conduct of the Quakers at Clonmell—Methodist Preacher deserted by his flock—Journey to Tuam and Galway; lucrative benefits at these places—Successful expedient to settle a dispute with a landlord, or "A new way to pay old debts"—Journey to Sligo—Doctrine of Rousseau—Sudden transition from the meanest to the most comfortable and splendid accommodations; and kind liberality of an amiable family.

After settling my affairs at Cork, as I had an opportunity to visit the lake of Killarney, I set out immediately. In fact, I was not disappointed, for I saw more than I expected. This lake is entirely surrounded with mountains, rocks, and precipices, which are covered with wood. There is on the top,

enclosed by mountains, a small lake, called the Devil's Punch Bowl; the superfluous water of which, falling through a chasm into the middle of the lake, forms one of the most beautiful cascades: the echo of which, amongst the hills, is equally wonderful. This lake, or rather phenomenon of nature, really deserves to be seen. I found there a great number of every description of people; amongst many others, was a gentleman, who politely approached me, and offered me his hand, for fear any accident should befal me. When we were going away, a lady, with a loud voice, said, "Take care, that that little gentleman does not fall." I turned round, and seeing a beautiful and lovely nymph, replied, "Madam, I fall already." This answer procured me the friendship of both: they were much delighted, and I found afterwards that the lady was his wife. He instantly called her, and they both proposed to me to visit Limerick, with a promise to procure me a

good concert. Her eloquent speech, joined with a graceful and persuasive manner, and his Irish promise, which was more to be depended upon than that of many countries that would confirm it with an oath, prevailed with me. I made no resistance; but soon accepted their warm invitation, with a promise to be there on the day appointed.

Before I drove into the town, this amiable couple met me, and conducted me to a lodging, and would not allow me that day to take my dinner at home, but insisted on my going to dine with them. I considered it would be improper to refuse their kind invitation, and therefore complied with their request. I spent a most agreeable day, being introduced to many of their friends. I was surprised to see so large a party; but soon found the reason of it, which was, by an ingenious contrivance, to procure me a numerous concert. By this means, my benefit succeeded wonderfully; for there was such a crowded room, that many

were obliged to return home; and, to prove the great influence of Mr. and Mrs. Brown, all those persons the next day sent their ticket-money, with interest. So that, not only the handsome figure of Mrs. Brown, but also the beauty of her mind, must be admired. I take this opportunity, with sincere emotions of gratitude, to return my humble thanks to the inhabitants of Limerick for the flattering attention they conferred upon me.

But, notwithstanding the kind reception I experienced, I was obliged to quit their amiable and interesting society, to go to Clonmell, the chief town of the county of Tipperary. I was mistaken in ranking Clonmell amongst the splendid towns in this kingdom; for it appeared to me deficient in brilliant society. I found the people, by their peculiar mode of living, dwelling in a retreat, and as it were shut out from the busy world. Yet I was not deprived of their society: they were Quakers, to whom I was intro-

duced ; and I spent among them many a-agreeable moments. I was never acquainted with those people's principles, but learned, from their own account, that George Fox, who was born at Drayton in Leicestershire, was endowed with such an original fund of good sense, and such a flow of eloquence, that, by his abilities, he became the Patriarch of Quakerism, and dictator of their minds and consciences. But I shall not pursue my remarks on their spiritual concerns, since their morals evidently appear humane, and salutary to the general interests of mankind. I found virtues in those quiet and sociable people, superior to those of any other religious sect ; and I have remarked, that you seldom find a Quaker committing a crime, the inhabitant of a gaol, or a beggar in the street, which is certainly a great deal to say in their favour. Whatever, therefore, their gospel may preach, their actions must be an example. I confess, I took leave of them with regret ; so

much did I admire their retired manner of living. Therefore, they are never in want of society, and never looking out for new amusements; which idle minds seem continually hunting after, while, by so doing, they sow the seed of peevishness for old age. With regard to myself, they understood what sort of life I pursued, which was in the busy world, amidst a tumult of people, where every one is not master of his own ideas; and which may be a good school to learn patience in. In consequence of this, they provided me letters of introduction to Ballinasloe, which I found of great service to me. Those to whom I delivered them, procured me a crowded and select concert, attended by a number of officers, who were quartered there during my stay.

There was a great wool fair in this place—according to public report, the first in the kingdom; which, from the description given of it to me, excited my curiosity to go to see

it. But a gentleman to whom I was recommended, and from whom I received many kind attentions, opposed an obstacle to my intention, fearing such a number of people would be rather troublesome; so he postponed it till the next day, which was Sunday, saying, all people would be at prayers, and I could see the place at my leisure. Next morning, the gentleman, not forgetting his engagement, came and took breakfast with me, and when we were ready to set out, I heard a particular voice of a man in the street. I looked out at the window, and saw a crowd of people at my door, and, in the middle, a man with a book in his hand. At first, it appeared to me a comical business; but, at last, I was astonished to see, that in a civilized country they should allow such cruelty, as to make game of a poor unfortunate creature, whom I took for a lunatic; and, if Mr. Crump had not acquainted me with the contrary, I should have remained in

the same idea. He told me the man was a Methodist; and he spoke it in a sort of discontent, as a reproach to the Church of England being defective in delivering the Gospel; whence arise many errors, which furnish a variety of sects, called Dissenters. This was the information I received from Mr. Crump, who was not sparing in his objections to the National Church; and he seemed to me, as one who had got the visionary complaint of Swedenborg, or his madness for the new Jerusalem. Consequently, I did not wait to hear the conclusion of his chapter, but departed from him, and took my station in the street, to listen to the Methodist preacher. But, as I happened to make my appearance when they were singing a hymn, I caused a discord in their tune, by giving a sudden turn to their inspiration. As soon as they observed me, they all crowded to the place where I was, and left their pastor, with his book in his hands, to conclude the duty

by himself. It was certainly a cruel circumstance for a shepherd to be thus forsaken by his flock; and the last effort he made to recover them, was to cry out, "Brethren, my dear brethren, return to your duty, and don't follow this little red devil" (it happened I was dressed that day in a red coat); but this effort of his anxious mind made no impression upon them, and, the more to show their inattention to his doctrine, they began to make such a noise, that it put the whole town in alarm; and the garrison flew to arms, thinking that the enemy was approaching. At this time, the whole nation, upon the political stage, was performing a tragic scene. In consequence of which, the Colonel ordered all the streets to be well guarded by the troops; of which, one of horse found the preacher singing a hymn, No. 306, adapted to Handel's March. The Captain hearing this, and having no idea of a hymn, stopped him with a reprimand, thinking he was singing a

ballad; and though he gave a very long explanation, the Captain would not understand his vindication, saying, he never heard of a hymn to the tune of a march. At last, he declared he was a Methodist preacher, and begged of him to allow him to wait for his congregation who had deserted him, and gone with the red devil. The Captain, finding out immediately that he alluded to me, asked where I was gone. "Gone!" said he, "I suppose to the devil!" "Then you must go there after him," replied the Captain, "and you will be sure to find your people." During this altercation, they began to hear their voices so loud, that they could distinguish where they were; and when tranquillity was restored, the garrison returned to the barracks: but the Captain, anxious to give me assistance, for fear any accident should happen to me, came with his dragoons, and escorted me home; when I saw the countenance of the preacher pictured with anger.

But, leaving no time for his inspiration to work, I set out for Tuam, where I found good sociable people; by whom I was well received, and who were ready to render me any service in their power. I took this opportunity, and gave a concert, to defray the expences of my journey to Galway. I was not disappointed in the idea I had conceived of their generous dispositions; for their benevolence inducing them to give me every facility to pursue my travels, they afforded me a most lucrative benefit. Often have I gratified my feelings with a pleasing remembrance of their kindness, which has left an indelible impression on my mind. After having experienced so much goodness, it was with sorrow I was obliged to leave them, and find my way to Galway.

This city, as far as I can remember, is seated in a bay, and most commodiously situated for trade. There is a considerable herring fishery, and I understand it is the

only place that has any foreign trade. It is also prettily built, and has the appearance of a flourishing city. The citizens receive strangers with great civility,—not with insignificant politeness, similar to a sponge full of water, which when squeezed becomes dry; but the essence of true hospitality dwells in their hearts, and never can be eradicated from them. At my introduction to their society, how kindly did they receive me! Their attention was paid in a manner that makes a foreigner easy, and which attracts respect and love. They had the penetration to see I was not a hunter after fortune, but that the manner of life which accident had forced me to adopt, was repugnant to my feelings; so they consulted among themselves what was best to be done; but it was decreed above, that not any thing was to be settled at this time, but that a concert was as much as I could expect, which was numerously attended. This brilliant assembly

put me in a cheerful situation, and I remained here some weeks longer. In the course of the pleasant time I spent in this amiable society, I often met General Hutchinson, whom I found a most amiable man, and his conversation interesting and agreeable. However, I should not dare to trust myself opposite to him, to converse through a cannon, as I have heard he is rather a bold gentleman upon such occasions, and gives no time for a reply.

After many agreeable moments passed in this polite city, I proposed to pay a visit to Sligo; for, not only business called me thither, but curiosity induced me to see this corner of the Island, as it had the reputation of having savage inhabitants in it. I therefore made preparations for my departure. On the day appointed for my setting off, my servant Noad, as usual on such occasions, went to pay the landlord, Mr. McDule, two pounds, which was due that week for my lodgings, and Mr.

McDule made no objection to accept it; but, in his memorandum book, he pretended to shew I owed him the sum of sixteen pounds, and that he had only received one half; and, moreover, that he was ready to take his oath, I had agreed to give him four pounds per week. Noad firmly opposed him, and stood to the truth, saying, he was a witness that the agreement was made for only two pounds per week; so a warm dispute arose between them, which forced me to go down stairs to see what was the matter. I found my Irish Paddy, Noad, like an honest servant, eagerly interested in his master's business. Finding, however, that his good arguments did not avail, he thought a good blow on the head would be more comprehensible, and was accordingly preparing to inflict it; but Mr. McDule, threatening he would make him pay fifty pounds if he did so, stopped the intrepidity of Noad, who then told him he would not touch a perjurer.

This gave great offence to Mr. McDule, who replied with fury, that there was never a Methodist known to be a perjurer. Noad wanting to argue on this subject, which in fact he did not understand, I put a stop to the dispute, by saying, "Let his faith alone." "No, no, master," he answered, "I only wanted to knock his *head*, not his *face*." This blundering reply made me laugh, and I told him to come along with me. When I was alone, I began to think, that such a man as McDule could have no principle of honour, by his wanting to impose on me in this way, and that, on such an occasion, it would be very allowable, by some stratagem or other, to avoid injury or insult; and, at the same time, if possible, to make game of him. Consequently, I formed a project that he might quarrel with my servant, which was more proper than with myself. I instructed Noad in what manner to proceed: I gave him orders to go from home,

and not to appear till late at night, and at his return, to make a loud knocking at the door, pretending to be drunk, and when let in, to ask for a candle to go to bed, which I would contrive should be refused him ; he was then to say some unpleasant thing to the landlord, as I have experienced that those creatures who have not a spark of sense, are soon put in a passion with the least trifle, having no bridle to restrain their fury, which accordingly becomes their master. "It is two to one," said I, "he will give you a blow : and in that case you may cry out, "Murder," and say, you will make a complaint to the Mayor, and make him pay forty pounds for his imprudence." So, after this lesson given to Noad, I sent him away ; and the evening approaching, I went down to prepare McDule to meet Noad, when I found him saying his prayers. "I beg pardon," said I to him, "if I intrude upon your devotions, the pleasures arising from which, are certainly greatly preferable to,

and much more sublime than, any other whatever." "You are welcome, Sir," he replied, "I am meditating on the instruction contained in this Holy Book, wherein we are taught to be careful of doing nothing wrong, if we wish to save our souls." "You are right, Sir," said I, "to meditate on so important a subject; which, I trust, will so far influence your mind as to make you detest a bad action; and therefore I conclude you will not take an oath concerning the money in dispute between us." But I found his principles as dry as a stick for the fire, and that he was still determined to take his oath before the Mayor. I called for Noad, though I knew he was not there. Mr. McDule said, "Your witness will be of no use, and he is not at home." "He is," said I, "probably gone out to drink: many times he has done me this mischief before I left town. At Tuam he came home drunk, got a candle, went to his room, and set fire to the curtains

of his bed; and if the servant girl had not perceived it, the whole house would have been in a flame, and very probably the whole neighbourhood would have shared the same fate." "My dear Sir," replied he, "for your sake and my own, I will sit up for him, and will not allow him to take a candle." "I wish you would," said I, "and to prevent any mischief, open the door yourself and we will be safe."

Having so well laid my plan for putting this cat into the sack, that I was confident of success, I, therefore, wished him good night, pretending to go to bed. About the time appointed, I heard a knocking at the door, which not only raised M^cDule, but the whole street. Mr. M^cDule opening the door, beheld Noad drunk, who desired a candle to go to bed. Mr. M^cDule, as was expected, refused to give him a candle. Noad finding an opportunity, seized the candlestick, and both holding it fast, one pulled against the

other. But Noad proving the strongest, brought him to my parlour, and there took possession of both candle and candlestick; and, without any thought of malice (I presume), told him he was a great Geographer. It must be remarked, that a person in a passion, as nearly as possible resembles a mad man, and seldom takes time to consider what his adversary may say; therefore McDule, in a flame of passion, replied, "None of my family were Geographers, but all the McDules were honest people." Noad, perceiving his ignorance, began to repeat the same words, to induce him to strike. He was not disappointed in his views; for McDule approaching with fury, gave him a blow. Noad, pretending to fall to the ground, cried out, "Murder," which raised all the people that lodged in the house, who came down to prevent mischief. They found him with his nose apparently bleeding, which in his fall under the table he had rubbed with some red stuff

having the appearance of blood. Every one was against McDule, saying, if they had not come, Noad would have been killed. Noad, from under the table returned them thanks, and begged them to be witnesses how he was bruised, as he intended to go to the Mayor, to get forty pounds to defray the doctor's expences; and they all promised to support him upon this occasion. Mr. McDule, finding himself in an awkward situation, became a little milder; and, his insolence beginning to abate, he slowly rapped at my bed-room door. Pretending to be suddenly awaked, I asked, who was there. He said, "I am a friend come to beg a favour." I opened the door and asked, in what respect I could be useful to him. "I beg of you," he said, "to set out before sun-rise, to prevent your servant going to the Mayor, as I have bruised his nose by accident; therefore, allow me, Sir, to order the chaise at four o'clock in the morning." "Then," said I,

" do you give up your claim to the sum you demanded of me?" " My dear Sir," he replied, " there has been some error about the money; indeed, you do not owe me any thing." " Well, well," said I, " I forgive a fault when it is involuntary; I only request you to give me a receipt in full for the sum I have paid, as I do not owe you any thing, and I consent to set out at any time to oblige you, as all my things are ready." In short, McDule went to order the chaise, Noad having only time to wash his face, and apologize to McDule for the deception he had put upon him, at his altered appearance. McDule found himself rather stupified, and was persuaded Noad had taken a lesson from the stage at Drury-Lane, in London.

After this manner of contriving to save my money, I set out for Sligo; but the journey was tedious and uncomfortable, it being winter. I recollect, the second night the driver could not find the road, for the darkness of

the sky, and deepness of the snow; and missing his way, we were obliged to stop at an obscure village, where the people have the reputation of being savage. We drove to a cabin, and called a man. When he appeared, I asked him, if it was convenient for him to receive us. "Yes," said he, "with pleasure, but I have no bed, or other place than where I sleep myself, and if you will accept clean straw to lie upon, you are welcome." The darkness of the night, and storminess of the weather, induced me to accept his rustic, but hearty invitation, and completely reconciled me to his straw bed. In his cabin, I found a dozen such creatures, left to the care of nature, who had taught them to pay every attention, unaccompanied by any empty forms, to their guests, each being employed in giving new proofs of service, and of zealous benevolence; not having borrowed their principles from schools, and much less from Universities, where we learn to disguise our pas-

sions and the weakness of our mind, which, notwithstanding all our care, may yet be discovered. But this good innocent people deserve to be admired for their humane dispositions, said I to myself;—this rude state of society, which I now behold, proves to me how little advantage those gain, who wish to be above simple nature. I found in the breast of those people the true repository of happiness; ndeed, their minds were perfectly content, thinking their cabin as comfortable as the first lord's palace, without any hazard of their being victims of slavish ambition, which often produces the worst consequences.

Whilst, with these interesting thoughts in my mind, I was examining their cheerful countenances, I was interrupted by an unexpected message from a gentleman, inviting me to take a bed at his house, and announcing that supper was waiting for me, and his coach ready at the door of the cabin. To be thus transported from straw, as it

were by some fairy trick, to a feather bed, produced a sudden change in my situation, and perhaps in my sentiments too. I took my leave of these worthy people, and proceeded to an enchanting house, the entrance to which was through a park, planted with trees on each side, and between rivulets, with an artificial water-fall, ornamented with bright lamps. In front of this beautiful mansion was a lake, upon which the light from the windows was reflected, and gave it the appearance of the enchanted temple of Apollo, in which Pagans performed the absurd ceremonies of their religion. In short, on my arrival at this delightful house, the charms of which were heightened by the graciousness and affability with which I was received, I thought myself in Paradise.

At supper we enjoyed a very pleasant conversation ; the whole family appeared to me entirely free from reserve. My straw bed afforded them good materials for a joke, which

the young lady introduced, by declaring she was the author of my feather bed, for which she expected a reward, and begged me to give her a tune upon the guitar, knowing I performed on that instrument. It would have been a crime to refuse so obliging an invitation : I gave orders to bring it, and in the interval she got up and began to play on the piano-forte. Her taste and execution astonished me, and I found her a proficient, both in music and in painting. She admired my instrument, and was so much pleased with my music, that she requested me to set it for the piano-forte. This flattering demand I promised to comply with, and to send the music from Sligo, the distance not being great.

After this conversation, and after spending a very pleasant evening, I was conducted to my bed-room, which, I must observe, was fitted up for a king, rather than for such a humble traveller as myself. I was treated in every

respect with the greatest hospitality and politeness. On the following morning I took leave of this amiable family, who loaded me with their kind attentions.

CHAP. XI.

Return to Sligo; relieved from the annoyance of vulgar curiosity by the opportune frolic of a run-away pig—Loss and recovery of Miss Janson's ass, the advertising of which aided my concert—Arrival at Londonderry, and description of that city; Count de Tantene and his book—Visit to Belfast; kindness of Generals Drummond and Seddon—Arrival at Portarlington; advantages of equanimity and cheerfulness of disposition—Black powder and fasting a sovereign remedy for lowness of spirits and loss of appetite, exemplified in the case of a lady—Arrival at Armagh; introduction to General and Mrs Nugent; lucrative benefit.

In my journey back to Sligo, I did not meet with any thing but bad roads; and it was with great difficulty I got on, for the horses, striking their feet into the ice to keep themselves from falling, could not draw them

out again; therefore, to prevent any accident happening to me, I was resolved to walk as well as I could; but in the newly-fallen snow I found it a work of great labour for my feet.

During this violent exercise, I perceived at some distance a man riding upon an ass, who seemed to have no less trouble in his travelling than myself; but the ass getting better over the ground than the horses with the chaise after them, he soon reached me, and delivered me a letter from his mistress, Miss Janson, with a request to send her the music abovementioned. "This request has rather come at an unfortunate time," said I to the messenger, "return home and assure your mistress, on my arrival at Sligo, it will be my first care to send it to her." But he replied, he had orders not to return without the music, and if I would allow him he would accompany me to the town, which was not far off; consequently he went before my

chaise till we arrived at the place, where people began gathering more and more; and when we appeared in the Market-Place, I remember there was a great pig fair. On this occasion, many idle people joined those who followed me, and made an immense crowd and disorder in the fair, which set at defiance all the authority of the Mayor. In this confusion, the pigs contrived to deliver themselves from their confinement, and, breaking from their prison, ran about in several directions. The master of one of those rebels attempted to catch him, being afraid to lose his property; when the terrified animal, in the hurry of his flight, happening to encounter a woman selling eggs in a basket, ran between her legs, and carried her to the Mayor, at whose feet she fell down and broke her basket of eggs. This new object amused the eyes of the tumultuous spectators, and they soon disappeared from me. This was the very thing I wanted, in order to give

me an opportunity of driving to my lodgings, which were ready prepared for my reception. I no sooner got out of the chaise than I found some officers in my room, with whom I was acquainted. They had learnt the day of my arrival, and wanted me to dine with them; to which proposal I made no objection, but went immediately.

But to return to the man and his ass:— He called upon me the next day, when I confessed I had not yet done any thing concerning the music, but promised, the day after he should be dispatched with it. So, to fulfil my word, on the following morning I got the music ready and delivered it to him; when he announced to me an accident he had met with, namely, that he had lost Miss Janson's ass. He told me, he had made every enquiry after her, but in vain; and, therefore, he begged me to put her in the newspapers, with a particular account of her natural beauties, which he gave me. So I

sent to the paper the advertisement, with the description, which was a true one, for she was very handsome ; and I was fortunate enough to succeed in restoring her to the man, and without delay sent him home. Now, in speaking of the success which attended my splendid concert, I must attribute it greatly to the account in the papers of this elegant ass, which I must declare was not my own doing, but which gave rise to so much lively conversation and inquiry on the subject, that the inhabitants wanted to be particularly acquainted with me, and gave me a general invitation to their houses, where I spent a pleasant time in their society. They sent me with a heavy purse to Londonderry, which city lies in a pleasant situation near the head of Lough Foyle : it has a very good port, into which ships of any size have a commodious access, and consequently a considerable trade. According to the historical account of it, it is well fortified ; but to my

recollection, only strong enough for those ancient warriors, who were not acquainted with the use of gunpowder : the city is well built, and the inhabitants, I can justly say, good Irish people. The gentlemen from their country seats joined with those of the city, who formed a great and respectable body in my concert room, and procured me a most fertile harvest for the winter season.

During the time of my stay in this city, arrived a gentleman on his way from Scotland, who called himself Count de la Tantene ; but his income appeared to me to be left behind, to support in France the title of his family, which I have no doubt is great. But, to maintain his situation, he brought with him a good portion of industry, and a small one of ingenuity, by the help of which he got introduced into the first company, where he so far succeeded as to enjoy in profusion every luxury of an epicurean life, with the benefit of a liberal subscription, for

publishing his remarks on his journey through Ireland and Scotland: therefore, it was expected this work would have been true, and favourable in its description to both nations. But the report I had of it from Mr. Maghee, was, that all the subscribers were so displeased with his book, that they put it into the flames, and made it vanish in smoke, finding it indigestible, and his account untrue. "Stop, Sir," said I to him, "and do not condemn the author; perhaps he means to write his confession, and declare his infamy in a manner similar to that of J. J. Rousseau." "Oh!" said he to me, "we may wait a long time, for you may be sure his materials are not yet ready for the press." "Then," I replied, "it will be too long for me to remain to read this new author's confession; for I have heard, a long time, that Belfast is the most considerable town of this part of the kingdom for its trade, and number of inhabitants, and I apprehend it will be

commodious for carrying on my own affairs ;" so I bid him adieu, and set out.

On my arrival at Belfast, I soon found a good reception. I had the honour of meeting with General Drummond and General Seddon, who were both engaged with the trust of the national security. It has always been remarked of great men, that they never reject any thing proposed to them, as beneath their notice, where they perceive the motives to be good. On the contrary, they take the opportunity to show their elevated minds in the least, as well as in the greatest things.

On my arrival, General Seddon, no doubt, heard I was a man that had to make my way round the world, to support my existence, and study the human mind ; therefore, he honoured me with his visits, and I was glad to discover that he was active in many good things ; for there is a pleasure in knowing each man's particular virtues, with whom we have to converse. While he was

examining me, I admired the prudence of his questions. General Drummond soon joined his friend Seddon with his patronage, and they gave so powerful a support to my concert, that it would be ungrateful in me to omit mentioning their generosity. In the midst of settling public affairs, these great Generals found a moment to attend to mine; by which they indulged their noble dispositions, and called to my mind the story of Antisthenes. This Philosopher was, one day, bringing home, in his hand, fish from the market, at which many expressed their surprise. "It is for myself I carry this fish," said he, "but when I am calculating a quantity of stones or mortar, it is for my country." So General Drummond contributed to the welfare of his country, and was, at the same time, the bestower of happiness on many individuals who were honoured with his kindness.

I afforded a very favorable specimen of the

effects arising from the patronage of General Drummond and General Seddon; for I became like a lady of fashion, on whom all eyes are turned, for the surprising taste of her dress. My fame spread so widely, from the kindness of their patronage, that it reached to some prisoners of a particular description, from whom I received an invitation to dine. I did not reject their civil attention, but only made a polite retreat, and gave my answer in the following manner: I told them that, in consulting my wishes, my inclination directed me to accept the kind offer of their pleasant society; but there was one obstacle which presented itself, and I was with sorrow obliged to postpone my visit till I procured the consent of General Drummond, which I would endeavour, as far as was in my power, to obtain. This answered quite *à propos;* for, the very same day, the General sent me a card to dine with him that day, when I was glad to have the oppor-

tunity of showing the unfortunate people's note. The General read it, smiling at their request, and, as soon as he had finished, asked me, if I had been instructed in my youth in political or ministerial affairs. This sudden demand made me immediately conjecture that, perhaps, those people were prisoners of state. "No," said I, "General, my master instructed me in what belonged to my comfort in life—in the principles and practice of virtue, whence follows quietness of mind; and in aiming at being a good man: which is as simple an education as I could receive from a school." This reply pleased the General, and he desired me to dine with them, with an order to the Governor of the place to show me every civility. The next day, when I appeared, the prisoners were all well disposed to receive me heartily, and expressed their joy more than I could have expected, and forgot, for a while, that their liberty was lost. In this confusion, the sentinels left

their posts to see me, at which time one of the prisoners set himself at large, perhaps to save the trouble of being judged by a Court Martial. This accident produced some kind of alarm, which could not fail to be reported to the General; so the officer with fear was obliged to declare what had happened. The General, with his usual good nature, said, "Have you seen my little friend lately, because I heard the man who had fled had put him in his pocket; if he has not, you know, my brother soldier, we are allowed to conquer, but not to be cruel, so let him go home to his children, and he will stop their crying." Such an unexpected answer astonished the officer, who was equally struck with the greatness of his mind. I never made the discovery of the cause for which these people were imprisoned, nor can it be of material consequence to the reader.

I left Belfast, and passed quick as a shadow through Monaghan, Cavan, Mullingar,

and Killbeggan, and stopped at Portarlington, where I found most of the inhabitants speaking a foreign language; and, what is more surprising, they had the manners and customs of Continental people. But I was soon informed by some of them, that they were French Hugonots; a set of people remarkable for their opinions, who made in France so great a change by their contests with a rival party, and who were at last compelled to take their departure from the kingdom. After their fall, having no prospect of any change in their favour, they all preferred to settle under the protection of liberal nations, who agree with their own sentiments in the modern doctrine of faith. Therefore, some of those good families took refuge in Ireland; and, to be useful to the kingdom, established a French academy, conducted by worthy and respectable members amongst themselves; which produced many learned pupils, and rendered great service to the nation. In short, I

thought myself in the middle of France, from their politeness and attention, which are qualities familiar to the French nation.

Those refugees inherited from their forefathers great animation of soul, and quick intellectual powers. They soon perceived the motive of my arrival in town, and gave a good help to my concert, which I found most lucrative from their patronage. The interest they were so kind as to take in my behalf, they declared, was owing to my cheerful disposition, which induced them to serve me. 'Tis true, it is unpleasant in society to meet with persons too reserved: it gives rise to many conjectures about them, and, after all, we find ourselves not at ease in their company. My gaiety and good spirits are fortunately always equal. I sometimes happen to meet with disappointments, which I take as a storm, and console myself with thinking that next day I shall have fine weather: therefore, it is not of any use to alarm my

mind, since adversity must have an end as well as prosperity. I am perfectly astonished when I behold persons, whose situation would make life delightful, plunged into the deepest distress, because they want to stretch out their arms more than their coat will allow them, and, through false pride and a discontented mind, take a pleasure in tormenting themselves. My landlady at Portarlington will furnish an example :—She enjoyed three hundred pounds a year, after the death of her husband ; the rest of his effects her son took into his possession, but gave a most elegantly furnished house to his mother, where I lodged. This lady one morning graciously paid me a visit, when, indeed, I was not ready to receive her, having my night-cap on. The dishabille in which she found me, contrary to my wish, did not make her retire. She sat down : " Take your breakfast, Sir," she said to me, " I come to consult you on a very interesting affair." " What business could bring you to take counsel from me?" I

answered. Upon this, she explained to me the cause of her solicitude, and said: "Since my husband's death, I have been reduced to three hundred pounds a year, upon which it is impossible for me to live now, having been used to so much more, and this puts me into a miserable state of low spirits, and loss of appetite." I began to talk to her very gravely upon this comical illness; observing how many accidents happen from want, and mixing a little moral sentiment in my discourse, to prevent her perceiving I made game of her. "I cannot think," said I, "there is any great danger in your complaint, and I flatter myself I can restore your good spirits." "Oh!" she replied, "I will look upon such a cure as a miracle! I have applied to doctors, and not one could succeed, but your own gaiety convinces me that you are in possession of some mysterious secret, which you employ to have such wonderful spirits." "Yes, Madam," I replied, "I will not deny I take some black

powders, given to me by a great philosopher." She answered, "Blessed be his name! I have been right when I thought you had some help for your uncommon cheerfulness, and I desire and beg of you to have mercy on my afflicted mind, and give me this powder." I was now sufficiently acquainted with her whimsical illness; therefore I said to her, by way of a joke, "Go to your tabernacle (for she was a strong Methodist), and give thanks for having discovered a secret for the cure of low spirits;" adding, that when she returned I would give her a black powder. She went, in fact, to her meeting-house, and Noad, having listened to our conversation, and adopting the principle of Socrates, that God ought to be worshipped according to the law of the society in which we live, accompanied her; he and she groaning and singing mournful hymns.

But, now that I had seriously embarked in this arduous undertaking, I confess I began

to consult with myself, for some time, what to do; and, at last, after ruminating a good while, I took some bread, which was left on my table, and immediately secured the door, to prevent any body troubling me in my laborious work. I next put in order what was required for my chymical preparations, having tongs, fire, and shovel, upon which I put bread, and began a process, similar to that of making the tincture of antimony. First of all, the saline matter I found close to a very hot fire after the operation, in the form of a scoria, or combination of fixed salt, perhaps confounded with the crust, which partly calcined the bread by means of the acid, and altogether formed a neutral salt, which gave me a beautiful shining black powder, and I found it very good for my purpose. When I employed it for her use, I pulverized it, in which state it bore the name of *Dasuma Metallorum:* but, for want of a mortar, I was obliged to substitute my cup and saucer,

with which I contrived to press it. It answered as well as possible, and gave a most excellent black powder, ready to be taken in some liquid. For her complaint I preferred water gruel, which I administered according to the rules of an eminent doctor. At first, looking at my watch, I felt her pulse, which I found irregular; though I cannot in conscience say, whether the irregularity lay in her pulse, or in my watch. I sent her to bed with orders to take, three times a day, the black powder in water gruel, most strictly prohibiting her from taking any nourishment whatever, because I recollected she told me she had not any appetite, therefore I did not want to go contrary to the wish of nature, but to perform my doctorship with knowledge, as far as I could understand. I thought it proper to put her in a good feather-bed, to make her perspire; a design which the weather (it being summer-time) helped me to put in execution. Her servant girl swore at

me, and told me that I would be the cause of her mistress's dissolution, she was in such a violent perspiration, which I attributed to the virtue of the black powder, and assured her it was a symptom of her speedy recovery. Of this I entertained no doubt from my attention, and the merits of this noble powder; for at the end of three days she had got a wolf's appetite, and sent to me to give her leave to eat a beefsteak. But, as the genearl practice of doctors led me, from many considerations, not to allow my patient to have any thing that came under the name of solid food, till she was reduced in strength, and as I had yet in my possession ten more of the medicinal powders to administer (though she had already consumed a number of them), I sent her those to mix in water gruel; but, in order to be more merciful than the rest of the faculty, in prescribing jalap, rhubarb, and laudanum, I permitted her, in case her appetite increased, to take

one egg for her dinner. But she soon took advantage of me, and exceeded her allowance; for the next day, not waiting any longer, she eat half a yard of sausages, to the surprise of every one in the house, and her spirits were so much improved, that it was impossible to stop her prattle.

I must say she was of a generous disposition; for she did not forget to ask me for my bill, wanting to pay me for my labour: in truth, she was not wrong in her idea, for how can doctors and apothecaries live without being rewarded? and if I had calculated my time in making the black powder, with attendance, feeling her pulse, and looking in her eyes, (which is the hereditary practice amongst the doctors, in order to find something, though I found in her large blue eyes nothing but a good deal of conversation), —for the whole of my trouble on this occasion, if I had charged her twenty pounds, I should have thought myself as honest a

man as possible. However, I was well rewarded by accepting of a writing-box from her son, as a memorandum that I cured his mother with a black powder, that could not do harm to any body; and, to my satisfaction, I found myself a doctor, without being at the trouble of taking a degree for this sublime knowledge, not having any ambition to aspire to the height of this noble speculation.

I therefore set out for Waterford, through which town I once passed rapidly, if my reader recollects my shipwreck with Captain Somerville. Here is the finest harbour I could find in Europe, and ships come up close to the quay. If I am correct in my recollection, this city carries on a great trade with many kingdoms, and more particularly with England. There are no low spirits to be found amongst the inhabitants of Waterford: quite the reverse, their minds are occupied in looking after pleasures, and in shewing

kindness to strangers. I had the happiness of being introduced to their society; and their attentions and eagerness to find out amusements for me, give them a claim to be mentioned with the profoundest gratitude.

After a few weeks spent in jollity amongst them, I changed my climate, and appeared at Armagh, where I had the honour to meet General Nugent, who was at that time Commander in Chief in Ireland. This amiable General, who, in whatever troublesome station he might be placed, was indefatigable in his duty, united, with a depth of understanding in his public, such dignity of sentiment in his private character, as to place his whole delight in captivating the hearts of the nation. How simple a process it seemed to such a man as him, to inspire amazing reputation by his bounty; but, in truth, every thing he did was dictated by the same virtuous principle which he displayed, when he addressed the Judges of the Court-martial,

and became the admiration of the whole kingdom. His high reputation led me to think, if such an illustrious man takes me under his patronage, it will procure good success to my benefit ; but, unfortunately, I had no prospect of getting introduced to him. I therefore ordered my concert bills to be distributed at any rate, lose or win : but, as good luck would have it, the General got a bill ; and, as great minds never sleep, but are watchful to do good, he sent me a card to invite me to dine with him, with express orders to bring an account of my politics. This gave me some uneasiness ; and, said I to myself, " It is true, politics are in great vogue at present, but for my part I am not acquainted with them, neither have I any letters to show him concerning political affairs, or any desire to enter into such concerns ;" wondering, at the same time, who could give such an unjust report of me, as to occasion such a demand. Knowing his up-

right mind, I considered that I might go without fear, as he would soon discover my innocence, and set me free from calumny. I then began to take a review of my late and present actions, which suggested to my mind, what sort of report to give to the General; which was this :—One morning a number of gentlemen came into my room, and were pleased to exhibit, *extemporé*, a political drama, to exercise their wit. This strolling company of political players began with misrepresenting Pitt, Fox, and Camden, and then amused themselves with giving their representations of other men in power. But I remarked that not one of them acted the part of the Lord Lieutenant Cornwallis, which I concluded must be too difficult a task for them. During their performance, I could not help thinking these gentlemen stood in need of a surgeon or physician, to cure the disorder which had possessed their brains with the imagination that all Europe ought to be changed accord-

ing to their own fancy. Hearing such absurd dialogues, I thought it most prudent to keep a profound silence; but, at last having exhausted all their sense, they became quiet, and asked me for my decision of these matters. I excused myself, by saying, "I am not acquainted with any kind of politics, except one, which, from its advantage to me, I prefer above all others; and that is, the tickets in my pocket. May I venture to recommend my own plan? I look upon it as the first political doctrine, to look at home, to observe propriety of conduct, attend to your domestic affairs, and to direct your family in a peaceable and orderly manner: the nation, if you act thus, will look upon you as a true son of the mother kingdom."

This account, which was not improbable, contributed greatly to my introduction to the General and Mrs Nugent, from whom I had a kind reception, with such polite and friendly manners, that I might have thought my-

self at home, had it not been for the deep sense I entertained of the respect due to them. Their method of conducting the conversation was easy : every one was allowed a perfect freedom of reply, without the fear of being interrupted, which is a defect we often find in persons of little knowledge. In fact, I spent my time very pleasantly, talking on a variety of subjects, which General and Mrs Nugent supplied, and by degrees Mrs N. introduced those politics of my tickets, wishing me to repeat my account, which I did, having no objection to deliver them. The General took particular notice of what I said ; and from what I could observe in his countenance, it was to his satisfaction. At last, with some degree of precipitation, he asked me for my tickets ; and I had the honor of presenting them to him. On receiving them, he said to me, " Your politics are truly pleasant, having the power to unite all parties in good harmony, and to inspire general plea-

sure; the rest are merely the effects of perverseness and pride in a great part of mankind, which prevent them from ever experiencing such happiness as your own;—a very just observation indeed! The next day was my concert, and I found the General's opinion of politics fully confirmed, when with astonishment I beheld a most brilliant society in my room. But this numerous company must be attributed to the patronage of Mrs Nugent, to whose powerful name the public wished to pay respect. The bounty of this amiable lady was already enough exerted to call for my warmest thanks; yet not satisfied with bringing me such a numerous assembly as would have defrayed every expence, she sent me money to defray the whole amount, as if she had thought I had not before sufficient cause to recollect her; though. in truth, gratitude had impressed her image too strongly on my heart, ever to be obliterated.

CHAP. XII.

Visit to Kilkenny—Invitation to dine with Lord Ormond, who kindly patronizes a concert; an unexpected discovery or "agreeable surprize"—Introduction to Colonel Chapman and other military officers—Disappointment in consequence of the arrival of a French fleet, and the landing of General Hoche at Bantry Bay—Arrival at Longford—Journey to Drogheda—Advance and surrender of General Humbert—Passage from Ireland to the Isle of Man—Hospitable reception at Douglas—A strange dinner party, and whimsical duel.

After my lucrative benefit at Armagh, I prepared to visit Kilkenny. This excursion I took from the advice of an officer, whom I had met with at his quarters in several towns, and who by his kindness had evinced a great regard for me. This interesting gentleman was highly favored by nature, being adorned

with a most elegant figure, and having an excellent disposition, together with other estimable qualities in great perfection; so that he not only attracted the friendship of the men, but was much admired by the fair sex. In short, I never experienced more attention, he being a constant visitor at my house: as for his name, I never made inquiry about it; for, being a traveller, I thought it no material object, as I had no certainty of ever meeting him again. Before my departure I missed him, and found myself uneasy, wondering what had become of him. My inquiries after him put off my journey for some days. At last I found he had leave from the Colonel for a few days, but no one could inform me whither he was gone, therefore I set out and arrived at Kilkenny.

On the following morning, at breakfast, the Captain made his appearance. I cannot describe how much I was gratified by his presence. He called Noad to make some butter-

ed toast, having not yet breakfasted, and being accustomed to take that meal with me. While we were drinking our coffee with good cream, and fresh butter upon the toast, Noad brought me a card of invitation from Lord Ormond to dine with him. I was rather inclined to refuse, and said to my friend, I was tired with my journey; but he telling me he was invited there himself, and that it would be more pleasant for him to meet me, I could not refuse, and wrote an answer, that I would be there. After breakfast, he left me with a promise to return and accompany me to his Lordship, which he did. On my introduction to his Lordship, an unexpected scene presented itself to my view, I found in my unknown friend the Captain, the son of the illustrious Lord Ormond. This spectacle was indeed curious, for at my surprise both were delighted, and his Lordship could not conceive how I could be unacquainted with his son's name. I replied,

that a name did not give title to friendship; and besides, I never inquired, more or less, concerning the affairs of a friend who wished to put trust in me; so that, as the Captain thought proper not to mention his name, I had not thought right to ask it. However, it seems the Captain had only wished to keep me in the dark till he found a time to introduce me to his amiable father, who did me the honour to receive me, not as a stranger, but as the distinguished friend of his son. In consequence, I was treated with great attention, and he patronized my concert, which succeeded admirably well.

Notwithstanding the good benefits and generous reception I met with in many towns, finding the times in some degree unfavourable, and the public in general to be occupied rather with political affairs than with pleasure, I determined, without delay, to carry my speculation, of making an alliance with the military, into execution.

Though I had heard that Athlone itself was but an indifferent town, my project was to meet a great many military gentlemen, who had something to spare out of their income received from the national purse. Consequently, I set out to make experiments ; and on my arrival at Athlone, my first occupation was to provide myself a lodging. Among all that offered themselves to my choice, I could not find a better than a small thatched house, belonging to the first Apothecary of the place, where I found the walls of my room bent on one side, so as to threaten an immediate fall ; but in some respects they were very convenient, as the door shut of itself without the assistance of the hand. When I found that the whole town consisted of such description of buildings, I became reconciled to my own, and employed my time in making a large acquaintance amongst the officers. Colonel Chapman took particular notice of me, and kindly gave me a general

invitation to dine with him at the barracks; I did not refuse his polite offer, but accepted it with the warmest thanks. There I spent my time in the greatest luxury, turning day into night, and night into day; in fact, I became an imitator of their dissipated life, and found, by this contrivance, I should have a famous concert, as I saw the ladies of the neighbourhood ordering new gowns for that evening, when I had no doubt the attention and politeness of my friends the officers would attract a great company.

Colonel Chapman appointed the night for my concert, and all was fixed according to his pleasure; but after we had been enjoying ourselves the evening and part of the night preceding my benefit, an express arrived, at three o'clock in the morning, that the French fleet with General Hoche, had taken advantage of the opportunity afforded by a thick fog, and landed at Bantry Bay. Consequently, the whole garrison

was obliged to march to meet the enemy, and left me alone with my bills in my hand, like the Methodist preacher, whom I robbed of his flock. General Hoche's impolitic act swept off at once all the fine harvest I had expected to reap from my benefit night. On hearing this dreadful news, I had the pleasure to see that the whole town professed great loyalty, as all the inhabitants shut their houses, and their favourite dish of bread pudding was not to be seen in the street, on its way to the baker's oven, for fear of meeting a Frenchman. As to my landlord, he was making great preparation, expecting to have much practice among the wounded soldiers. This put me in mind to make enquiry about a number of articles, whether his shop was provided with them, as cream of tartar, flour of sulphur, plaster of betony, distillation of soot, sal volatile of vipers, sal ammoniac, and many other things that came into my head. The answer he de-

livered was extremely proper, and contained a good deal more information than I expected. As I had not the knowledge of sal ammoniac, he instructed me in this manner:— "Now, Sir," he said to me, "there has a remarkable surname been given to this salt, that is, *ammoniac*. Some centuries ago the authors of chymistry were pleased to invent a variety of names, which there is no need for me to acquaint you with; only I must tell you of the origin of this, which is as follows: There was a temple of Jupiter Ammon, situated in the middle of the deserts of Lybia; and a number of caravans passing over those sands, in their pilgrimage to that temple, we are indebted to the urine of the camels for this precious salt of nature. But at present we are quite at a loss, as pilgrimages have ceased, and we have nothing but an imitation from the manufactory of Venice or Anvers, where they prepare it with five parts of some stronger salts, and one part of sal marine,

with one-half part of soot, baked together to reduce it into a mass, and make it appear like the original from our good friends the camels."

When he had finished his relation of sal ammoniacs, he asked me if I understood what he said: "Partly," said I. "If not entirely," said he, "it is because you are a stranger to our tongue, for it is impossible to give you a clearer account." But, in truth, I paid little attention during the whole time he related the generation of his ammoniacs, having been occupied with thinking of my departure from Athlone; but that I might not give him cause to think me unpolite, I bade him shew me the sal ammoniac. "I have not any," he replied, "I keep only James's salt, which is more beneficial than any of those you have mentioned." I then said to him, "Let me see this excellent salt: "You cannot get better," said he, "to cure beef or pork, it is from the manufactory of Mr James at Belfast." I re-

plied, "I admire your ability in curing beef and pork; how proud must the University be to produce such a clever scholar!" I would not enter farther into conversation, finding all his knowledge consisted in the art of pickling beef.

To save time in my own concerns, I examined my map to find which was the nearest town for me to go to, as I perceived my income beginning to be rather low. This I found to be Longford, the chief town of the county of that name, which I had also heard was a pleasant city; so I set out immediately. On my arrival, I did not fail to meet with a good reception, though, in some degree, depressed by the gloom upon their countenances, arising from the false alarm the French General had given them. Notwithstanding this, however, I became as fashionable as a new dress just arrived for the ladies. The novelty of my person prevailed over every thing else; no more was mentioned of

General Hoche. Their houses were hospitably opened to receive me, and my name spread so far, that it reached the whole neighbourhood. I soon received a polite invitation to dine with a gentleman in the country; and finding the distance to his house no more than one mile, I accepted it with pleasure. Some of the gentleman's friends came for me in a chaise, and we set out together. We soon arrived, and met a pleasant society, who were by no means remiss in circulating merry conversation. The lively *repartée* and sensible remarks of an enchanting circle of ladies, induced us to forget home, and we did not think of the late hour, till the ladies put us in mind of our departure. We then all got ready to go; but it was in vain, for the servant informed us, that a message had come from the master of the inn to say, there was not a chaise to be got in the town, they being all engaged with passengers; therefore, some of the party wanted to walk, but the darkness of the night

and the heavy rain prevented this : so a good deal of confusion ensued amongst us, which at last put the master of the house in a state of uneasiness, and he declared his best jaunting car was broken, and the one he had at home he was ashamed to offer, but they begged of him to make it ready.

Mr Macguire, the master of the house, then provided from his neighbours pelisses for his friends the ladies, also great coats for the gentlemen, and for me his own spencer, in which my little figure cut so droll an appearance, that no one could stand for laughing ; but, in spite of this caricature, I was very well pleased with being so snug. When all was ready and disposed to move, Mr Macguire gave orders to put his favourite mare to the cart, which had the reputation of being a quiet beast : so at last we went with lanthorns to take possession of our seats. I was favoured with being near the driver, and close behind the mare. I admired her long tail, and it

seemed to me, her keepers had not been at all sparing of their oats. But when we began our trip, I found myself in an awkward situation; and, being without experience in such expeditions, I confess, I could not find any method to keep myself steady; and I received such violent shakes, sudden tosses, and pulls, that I was near falling to the ground. Obliged, therefore, to lie down, I accidentally found something to keep hold of with my hand, and thus secured myself; but another inconvenience arose; for, if I moved in the least, I was in danger of losing my life. Whilst I was in this very awkward situation, the mare, giving full scope to her natural disposition, kept beating my face with her tail, which prevented me from opening my eyes, for fear of being blinded: for this exercise of patience, I was amply rewarded by bringing upon my head great plenty of such materials as are useful to improve mushrooms, turnips, and cabbage. However, the ladies and gentle-

men had their share of the dirty road ; for, on their appearance at home, the servants did not know their masters, and were obliged to prepare baths for them, as Noad had done for me. After our purification from this dirty condition, I next day found the ladies in my concert room, the beautiful bloom of whose faces had sustained no injury, and who did me the honour to be the ornaments of the last night I spent in that good city.

Next day I took my departure for Drogheda. My principal object was to reach good winter quarters, as I considered that the bad season was advancing : therefore, I passed through many places where I only changed horses, and at last came to Slone. According to my recollection, it was a dark night, and bitterly cold. At a distance from the town I perceived an Aurora Borealis, or flame in the sky, with which my eyes were so delighted, that I could not withdraw them from it. Whilst my mind was completely buried in

humbly reflecting on the works of our great Creator, I did not notice where I was, and found myself close to the flame, when a guard stopped the chaise with an order to go no further. An officer on duty soon appeared, inquiring who was in the chaise, and finding from his language he was no common man, I took the opportunity of begging to speak to him. On hearing my voice, he approached the chaise; and, opening the door, very friendly shook hands with me, saying, in French, he was acquainted with my name, and immediately wrote a note, with a request that I would deliver it to the Colonel, and gave directions to the driver, in English, where to go. During this conversation, we were provided with a light; and, from the appearance which this gentleman made, I took him for a Russian officer, as he had on a green uniform. At this time his Russian Majesty was upon friendly terms with Great Britain, and I imagined that his troops had landed to pre-

vent an invasion from the enemy, who had been again expected. With this strange idea I was persuaded that I should find some uncultivated Kalmucks; but my false notion was soon removed, when I met with the essence of Irish politeness, and such sweetness of manners and attention as are far beyond my ability to describe.

We supped very late; and after that, my eyes becoming rather heavy from the fatigue of my journey, the Colonel ordered my bed to be made ready, and in a few minutes, with the rest of the officers, conducted me to it, desiring me not to put off my clothes, that I might be ready to set out at five o'clock. Of the reasons for this, I am not able to give an explanation; but it is certain, the Colonel with some of the officers came at the hour appointed, and made me rise, and conducted me to a room where breakfast was waiting for me, and immedately after, put me into a chaise, when I took my last farewell, for I have never met with them again.

On my arrival at Drogheda, I did not find any thing worthy of remark, but the handsome harbour, which I compared to the Liffey in the bay of Dublin. My stay in these winter quarters was but short, as I perceived the citizens involved in deep gloom, rejecting all kind of amusements, and without any sign of recovering their good spirits, the minds of the whole town being in a state of alarm, with the idea of a second visit from the French. Whatever their uneasiness might be, it did not make any impression on my mind; for when I reflected on the refined knowledge and politeness of the French nation, I considered that if it were possible they should become masters of the kingdom, when they felt their own superiority, it would be their interest not to oppress the people, or be savage; otherwise, they would show how ill-founded and hollow was the reputation they enjoyed of being a civilized nation. I thus persuaded myself, to indulge a good

opinion of them; otherwise, perhaps, I should have shrunk into a corner like the inhabitants of Drogheda, but I would not allow their spreading fears to influence me, and boldly changed my asylum.

Fickle fortune now frustrated all the exertions I made for my welfare; for when I visited Enniskillen, Kerry, Bandon, and Fermanagh, the benefit I received was precisely such as if I had sown pease, and the caterpillars had destroyed them. The French General Humbert landing at Killalla, became master of the town, and of Tuam which lay in his route. Elated by his rapid progress, he rashly advanced to Castlebar, where he met General Lake, a man of great understanding in the art of war, and whose measures were no doubt wisely taken; but the battle which ensued, made no impression upon Humbert, and he directed his way to Dublin. But the Marquis Cornwallis, a man of great natural sweetness of disposition, and much knowledge,

coming up, eight hundred French laid down their arms to him without resistance.

The motives which occasioned this invasion of General Humbert, are to me unknown; but such actions, however they may be in request with the lovers of war, and admirers of heroic exploits, are nevertheless odious to a quiet and feeling mind. But who is to be blamed, Humbert or his master, by whose orders he acted?—that master whom I may perhaps be allowed to compare to Nebuchadnezzar, ordained from above as a powerful instrument to carry into captivity the whole of the Israelites.

I confess I have no great knowledge in these matters, and shall therefore content myself with mentioning what I can remember of a story of the King of the Mice, whose rapacious disposition induced him to plunder many things from the farmer's stores, the acquisition of the booty increased his covetousness, and the fulness of his pride still

tempted him to grasp at more of his neighbour's goods, he therefore committed fresh depredations; and assembled, from the remotest provinces, his wise subjects, and disclosed his eager desire to take into his possession a delightful place, and make himself absolute master of it. The whole council not only approved, but highly admired his Majesty's project, and agreed to send ambassadors to the rats and weazels, inviting their Monarchs to join his tribe, with a promise to divide the spoil, and to immortalize their race. An alliance soon took place between them, and the war ended in their taking possession of the rich granaries of the mole, putting to desolation whatever they could find, and dividing the cheese amongst themselves. These animals, whose natures were corrupted by ambition, spreading as fast as possible, increased their insolence so far, that they became insupportable, oppressing numbers of the common-wealth, though they

could have no just title to claim possession of another's right. But this success, the baneful fruit of their false glory, impelled the King of the Ichneumons, who perceived their rapacious inclination, and their endeavours to devour his property, to rise against them. This Monarch accordingly declared war against them, and coming into the field, proved himself a most formidable enemy. His proclamation was treated by those little animals with contempt, and all their combined force rushed furiously from their holes to swallow him. But, notwithstanding this, they could make no impression on the Ichneumon, as that Prince was continually upon his watch, and ready to receive them, carrying on his attacks without dread, and in remarkably good order, falling on the back of the enemy's army with amazing swiftness, seizing with the greatest dexterity all their chief commanders, and pressing closely to regain the cheese which had been taken from his friend

the mole ; a part of which, that had not been consumed, he succeeded in recovering.

The rest of this little story, I am sorry to say, has escaped my memory. I must therefore return to General Humbert, who made such an impression on the whole Irish nation, as proved particularly distressing to my strong box: so that I retreated as quickly as my horses could carry me to Newtown, where I could not find a ship, and was obliged to take a fishing boat, in which I went to the Isle of Man, and landed without accident at Peele. I did not think it worth my while to make any stay in this little naked town, nor did curiosity induce me to examine the castle and monastery near the sea, which had been destroyed by some renowned warrior, as I had seen in Great Britain more remarkable ancient ruins.

Castletown I understood to be the chief place of the island, and the seat of the govenor's residence ; notwithstanding which, it is

far from being so populous as Douglas, on account of its harbour. I thought it would answer my purpose better to visit Douglas, and quit Castletown, which I accordingly did, and arrived at Douglas, where I was received with the utmost hospitality by the worthy inhabitants; and I can never forget my obligations to them, nor the powerful claim which they have upon my warmest gratitude.

This island attracts a number of strangers of every kind, who resort to it on account of debts contracted in their own country, as this is a general refuge for such persons as are not disposed to pay a visit to a gaol. Those people seemed to me to have neglected the principles of good management at home, and to have acquired a habit of living upon the public industry.

A performer from the Dublin stage arrived soon after me, who made an addition to the number of those who professed them-

selves enemies to the cares and labours of life. I have often seen those people form a cheerful society, and have beheld their tables furnished with luxuries. The last-mentioned gentleman, being well known in public, wanted to prove his abilities in private, by collecting those gentry who professed the same principles as himself; amongst whom he thought me of the number, and honoured me with an invitation to dine. I was at first inclined not to accept this favour, thinking he might employ his money to a better purpose, namely, to pay his creditors; but the Mayor of the town, who was present when I received this invitation, prevented my sending a message to that effect, by the introduction of some remarks on the imprudence of those persons, who having the enjoyment of many thousands per annum, and being sufficiently entitled to be called rich, act contrary to the rules of good order, and contract such enormous debts, that it is impossible to think on

their conduct without laughing at their folly. In his observations, however, the worthy Mayor had forgotten to distinguish the case of those who are dissolute, idle, and extravagant, from that of those rich persons who are often to be found gifted by nature with brilliant powers and extraordinary talents; but, living in kingdoms governed nearly on principles of equality, are consequently obliged to expose their fortune amongst the general mass of the people, in order to become useful members of their nation; so that before they are brought forward to shew their zeal in serving the kingdom, they find themselves deprived of their income.

On further consideration, the situation of this performer of the stage excited my curiosity, and I accepted his invitation, merely to see what sort of persons he and his friends were; and, to my astonishment, I found his table covered with delicacies: his manners, I could perceive, were such as did not

betoken a solid mind; nor was his situation calculated to afflict a man of sensibility. I enjoyed a sort of gratification, in being admitted to a close inspection of persons who led a dissipated life, yet preserved a specious shew of honesty, the reality of which only belongs to a good man, in the continual exercise of virtue. My performer celebrated his birth-day in so splendid a manner, and assumed such personal dignity, that you would have supposed him a Prince of the greatest fortune. He was reported to be a learned man; and possibly he might be so. There was, however, an air of melancholy in his countenance, which might be perceived even in the midst of his gaiety, and which, like soap in hard water, could never be thoroughly blended with that sprightly quality.

The unfortunate situation of this man brought to my recollection an observation of our eminent writer, Kobylanski, that he had found many learned in different branches of

science, yet unsteady in their actions, which arise from the defects of their natural dispositions having been overlooked, and from their giving way to hurtful inclinations, which administered constant fuel to a corrupt life, and subdued all the active principles of their mind. Experience has taught me the correctness of this author's ideas.

I was highly disgusted with listening to a variety of empty conversation, which at last terminated with the greatest spirit, produced by the influence of the bottle. I bade them good night, and very gladly retreated to my quiet room. I was very well satisfied that I was not present at a tragic scene, which I since learned was performed by the master of the feast, after my departure, in the part of the cruel Tyrrel, when he announced to Richard the Third, that he had executed his orders, and put to death both the young Princes. It happened at that time, that one of the company, being much in liquor, took

it in earnest, and thinking he had killed those innocent infants, without further explanation, approached him with fury, and gave him a blow, which produced a black eye, hallooing at the same time out of the window, for a constable to take him into custody. The people in the street hearing the alarm, and not knowing the real state of the affair, procured a constable, who finding nothing but a drunken man, left the room with contempt. Next day, one of those fellows did not fail to bring me the news, with all the particulars of the affront received by this actor; in consequence of which, he was determined to fight a duel, as soon as he could find a second, but he found it difficult to obtain one.

In the course of this conversation, we were interrupted by two officers of my acquaintance, with whom I have often spent a pleasant day. After the usual ceremony of shaking hands, I made an apology to the man for

the interruption which had been given to his interesting and serious narrative, and begged of him to continue his story, which he very politely did ; and the officers, on hearing the insult which had been offered to the performer, engaged themselves to be seconds to the parties. Meantime, I used my endeavours to reconcile, if possible, both parties ; but the officers obstinately rejected my proposal. I was surprised at their inhumanity, until, at the departure of the man, they declared to me the trick they intended to play upon them. They soon found out their lodgings, which were in appearance tolerably neat rooms, and might be distinguished by the nose as well as by the eye ; for the one was at a butcher's, the other at a fishmonger's, house. My performer did not refuse to behave like a man of courage ; but his adversary, on the proposal being made to him, appeared not at all to relish it, as he replied, with a hollow voice, that he was an emigrant,

a French master, from Dieppe ; that he understood drawing a little, and had already made a map of England, with all the country seats of the great lords, accompanied with remarks, so that no traveller could mistake them ; from which work he expected to gain considerable profit. But, as to fighting, he had a very slight knowledge of it ; and it was not at all convenient to him to exhibit talents which he had cultivated so little : besides this, there was another obstacle ; for his feelings would not allow him to fight against a man belonging to a nation from which he received a pension as an emigrant.

This excuse, according to my judgment, was sufficient ; but my friends the officers, wishing to enjoy some fun, persuaded him to appear in the field of battle. But when he was near the appointed spot, we perceived no small terror in his countenance, while with a confused voice he said, "That unfortunate evening there must have been a malicious and evil spirit in

the wine, which introduced madness and mischief, whose effects are too visible in the eyes of my adversary: if I only escape from this disaster, it shall be a warning to me to keep my hands and tongue quiet ever after, and to retire to a solitary state of life, where I may find peace of mind, and a freedom from such snares as this in which I am now caught." No doubt he was so far right: retirement has a variety of resources, and affords a perfect security for study and meditation, and a harbour from those tremendous storms of the passions which often overwhelm minds unable to bear them.

One of the greatest advantages arising from a retired life I may illustrate, by comparing it to the inoculation of infants, to prevent in a future age the many serious disorders which arise from the small-pox. It will be seen from this comparison, that I mean the care of children's education, which I think is the first duty of parents, and no difficult

matter to be put into execution. Of course, religious principles of any kind may easily be instilled into, and strongly impressed upon, their minds. We have an example in the case of Perigune, the daughter of Sinnis, the famous pine-bender, who, after her father was killed, took refuge in a remote place, where she was found in a spot overgrown with shrubs; and, according to the author's account who relates the story, she addressed her prayers to the wild asparagus and other plants: and her descendants, in process of time, venerated and worshipped the plants which had afforded an asylum to their ancient mother. When once a religious persuasion is fixed by education, it strenuously resists every other form of belief, as if custom were the criterion of the true faith. Similar pains and trouble in other branches of education, will, where the understanding is naturally good, produce a great fund of knowledge; but the main object must always

be, to instil the principles of virtue, and teach scholars to know themselves and the world, which will afford them the means of enjoying a happy life: thus instructed, they will always have materials ready to engage their attention, which is of great benefit; and they may therefore, at any time, enjoy a perfect independence, and the opportunity of improving their minds in a happy retirement.

But to return to my Frenchman: Who could possibly expect that he would adopt such a quiet life as this, for himself as well as for his companions, as professors of a dissipated life? And, very probably, he had arrived at the degree of doctor in that profession of dissipation. Such a man would find himself in a deplorable situation in the solitude he talked of, stretching his inactive limbs in his arm chair, and anxiously wishing for the time when he might retire to his bed, which is the grand luxury of such insignificant beings. So that, when I consider his speech

more closely, the anxiety which he expressed for such a tranquil life, seems to me to have been merely the effects of his fright and cowardly disposition, which manifested itself by very strong symptoms at the place appointed for the duel; for he trembled like the leaf of a tree in a high wind, and his head shook like its branches, whilst he declared, that he wished he could guess what would be the consequence, before he gave the blow, and that this was a more painful tribute to pay than the income tax, looking all the time he spoke, to see if he could make a safe retreat.

We found no less consternation in the face of the player, who would have drawn back from the combat, had not the officers insisted on his going through the business without delay. They then presented to them balls, which in fact were large pills ingeniously prepared, so that no one could discover they were artificial, and a small quan-

tity of powder, and obliged them both to fire. At the discharge of the pistols, their ideas became confused, so that they ran from each other in different directions: one fell into a hole full of water, the other a-against a stone, which bruised his nose in such a manner, that Lavater, the great observer of that organ, could have made nothing of it. When he perceived the blood, he was in despair, thinking it was occasioned by the ball passing through his head. In fact, both the champions were terribly alarmed; whilst the officers employed themselves in acquainting the public with the joke, and in shewing the pretended balls; which excited great merriment among the spectators. The appearance of the combatants was truly ludicrous, and afforded a fine subject for mirth, when the one was drawn out from the hole, with his clothes covered with dirt, his face besmeared, and his head like one of the mops they wash rooms with; and the other

with his eyes patched, and his nose bruised, looked like a beggar scraping ballad tunes on the violin.

Both those worthy gentlemen, whose abilities only served them to pamper their bodies with good living, and who might justly be considered a discredit to their own country, and not fit to be admitted into a foreign kingdom, were driven with disgrace and with the hootings of the mob to their lodgings.

CHAP. XIII.

A more respectable dinner party than that described in the last Chapter—Cautions and advice respecting our conduct, and those we choose for companions—The towns of Douglas and Whitehaven contrasted—Journey from the latter place to Newcastle upon Tyne; kind reception and lucrative concert there—Arrival in Durham; description of its romantic situation and charming scenery—Humanity and active benevolence of the Clergy—Character of Dr. Barrington, the present Bishop—Introduction to Mr. Smelt, and visit to that gentleman—Proceeds to Hull—Series of distressing events—Quits Hull for London, intending to proceed to America; is prevailed upon to remain in England; receives great kindness from the Archbishop of Dublin, the Misses Metcalfe, Lady Hawarden, and Mr Burdon of Hartford.

After the extraordinary duel related in the preceding chapter, I went to dine with the

officers at the barracks, where I met my worthy friend the Mayor, who acquainted the Colonel, that I had spent the preceding evening with the emigrants. I perceived the Colonel was not very well pleased with my visiting them, the motive for which was his kind attention to my welfare; and I have experienced in my travels, that not only he, but the public in general, looked sharp upon my movements, and generously directed my conduct, considering that I had little experience, and that accident had thrown me into the bustling world, which made them take a more than fatherly interest, to give me good morals for my future welfare. When the amiable Mayor explained to him, for what purpose I had gone, the Colonel was soon satisfied, and expressed his conviction, that no harm was done; but that it would serve to show me the varied shades of human life, and their ill example would give light to my mind, how to avoid bad principles. I could not be more

overjoyed than at that moment, in witnessing the interest he took for my person, but was a little afraid my visit might injure my reputation. It seems, he was aware of the authority of public opinion, and that there is no appeal from their judgment, even for the greatest Monarchs, who, great as they are, are often not exempt from bowing before their tribunal.

In the course of my apprenticeship to the world, during which I have been obliged closely to study the immensity of objects which present themselves to our notice, I have found, that as it is mere accident to be born of poor or of rich parents, so this accident does not allow arrogance to one, nor meanness to another, but both should keep an even balance in their station. Reflecting also on the singular corruption of our nature, I strove to banish all ridiculous chimeras of fancy, and to curb the unruly passions of envy, and of others which I shall not describe,

and which we often see presented to our eyes, like so many strange pictures disguised with all the art of the painter, in order to deceive the public eye, which is ever watchful over our actions. But we must not forget, that the public will continue to exercise their privilege, and nothing can prevent their looking at the concerns of men. A quiet man may sleep secure under the inspection of such legislators : and although this turbulent society often exercises its unlimited power amiss, yet it is good daily to attend its lectures. I have been in the midst of those good conductors and debating advocates, and have heard sentence pronounced on imprudent members, and have remarked, that no respect was paid to their rank or their high abilities. This opened my mind to the nature of their judgments, and I could not adopt their practice ; but it served me for a lesson, how to find the true method, by which I might not only avoid the censure of their

high tribunal, but so far become their master, as to dispose of them as far as the limited nature of my own affairs would admit, and as far as my political interest could extend. As to this contrivance which I have so boldly exposed, and which, if it will not serve for example, may remain with me ; it is not to be supposed a science, but the simple dictate of nature, without the labour of study, and such as does not stand in need of any laboured explanation. I may explain it by this similitude: The smith can without fear touch cold metals, and examine their qualities, which differ greatly one from another; then, understanding the nature of his metal, he is aware that keeping it in such a state of hardness will not give him any profit, and that it must be prepared in a furnace and made flexible, for which purpose these three articles are useful—fire to make it manageable, pincers to prevent accident, and the hammer to shape it to his fancy. So I think

that if we know well their nature, we may by a proper process manage the public, which, to say the truth, is pleased with greater ease, than soups are skimmed and made clear.

Those who have seen as many nations and remote kingdoms as I have passed through, will agree, that not only empires, but particular towns offer to us various natures of men, which ought to be consulted. The event of this method was visible in Turkey, where the invention of the Koran produced a multitude of sects, as numerous as maggots in a rotten cheese, and government was in no better condition, but nearly in a state of anarchy; therefore, to avoid such errors, the law should be adapted as closely as possible to the nature of the people's disposition, otherwise the government is in danger.

What I have said of the different natures of mankind, may be illustrated by the remarkable contrast I observed between the town of Douglas and the rich Whitehaven.

Douglas inspired me with respect and love, and taught me to remember its kind reception; the town of Whitehaven seemed like a hive of industrious bees, with watchful care, forbidding the butterfly to taste their honey. I therefore took leave, and crossed the county of Cumberland, which abounding in barren mountains cannot boast of the fertility of her soil. I went into the country no further than Carlisle, finding nothing to attract my attention, and from thence proceeded to Newcastle-upon-Tyne. I had no reason to repent my visit to that town, the inhabitants of which generously took notice of me, and by their kindness changed the gloomy aspect of my affairs, putting me in a state of defence, which enabled me briskly to repulse the attacks of want. General Dickson, Mr Abbs, and Mr Gibson, gave me proofs of their good dispositions, and of the national benevolence, which was exerted, not less nobly in improving the situation of an indi-

vidual like myself, than in supporting considerable kingdoms by their liberality; not only loading them with immense sums of money, but clothing the nakedness of their faithful subjects. And as they must have enjoyed the fruits of this bounty with additional pleasure, from receiving it at the hands of so generous a nation; so in my case I felt proud of the exertions of my protectors, who procured me a lucrative concert, in addition to many other kindnesses conferred on me. Two celebrated performers, Mr. Wright and Mr. Monro, both generously offered me their assistance, and performed that evening with many other gentlemen their friends: so that the concert room was not only well filled, through the interest of my benefactors, but graced by many of the most beautiful ladies, who appeared to enchant every eye, and inspire universal admiration, by the gracefulness of their per-

sons, and the lovely complexions they had inherited from nature.

The circumstances of my situation soon compelled me to quit Newcastle, which the generous reception I had experienced, and charming society I had met there, made me leave with great regret. I cannot speak of Newcastle without mentioning my obligations to Mr. Walker, from the very active interest he took in promoting my benefit. He ordered many thousands of bills to be delivered from his printing-office ; and, in addition to this, inserted the advertisement of my concert in several newspapers. These articles must have amounted to a considerable expence ; but he refused to accept any other compensation than my gratitude, which, warm as it is, can never sufficiently repay his generosity.

General Dickson kindly advised me to visit the City of Durham, and thus dispersed the darkness and gloomy uncertainty of my

prospects. He put me into the hands of his friend Mr. Ebdon, to whom, on my arrival, I presented his letter. This introduction to such a worthy man, afforded me not only the advantage of a generous reception from himself, and friendly admittance to his house, but also of being made acquainted with a select society. The pleasure I enjoyed in his company and interesting conversation, and that of his amiable family, made such an impression on my mind, that I said to myself: "Though travelling is a troublesome life, yet its fatigues are repaid by meeting with such friends as these." I was not only delighted with the liveliness of his discourse and quickness of his *repartée*, but had the still greater happiness of being the intimate friend of a man richly endued from above with virtuous principles. The merit of the Misses Ebdon is equally to be admired, who are the very same picture, in respect to character, as their father: the same good quali-

ties are to be found in their dispositions, exciting them to acts of benevolence as far as their power extends. Their feelings leave no room to doubt the goodness of their hearts, and purity of their sentiments; which, it must be no less gratifying to them to possess, than it was flattering to me to be introduced to such a worthy family.

My time was spent most pleasantly in the society of my friends, or in examining the wonderful situation of the City of Durham. I was much struck with the river Wear, which runs round it in the shape of a horse shoe: it might with little trouble be made an island, but in its present state it bears the name of a peninsula. Close to the neck of land, are the remains of a tower, surrounded by the handsome garden of the Bishop's palace, and beautifying the point of the peninsula. The Cathedral is a most ancient and grand edifice, in a picturesque situation, with an extreme declivity on the south and west

sides down to the river, the banks of which are wooded in profusion, and present that appearance of romantic wildness which is among the greatest beauties of nature. Great improvements have been made in them by the Dean and Chapter, who give them up to the enjoyment of the public.

I was surprised to hear of such a liberal disposition ; and my curiosity inducing me to make further inquiry, I was highly gratified by the information I received. A friend, whom I highly respect, acquainted me that they are a body distinguished for their munificence, employing their revenue chiefly in the practice of good actions, and in repairing the Cathedral, or their splendid houses, as has been done by the Rev. Dr. Haggitt, and Rev. Dr. Prosser, and the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Grey, with a view to circulate money among the poor working people ; expending also large sums in subscription to hospitals, and in other public undertakings for the

good of the nation: all which expences occupy much of their revenues. Indeed, their keeping the romantic and beautiful banks of Durham in repair, on purpose to please the inhabitants, must require a considerable sum yearly. Yet I find from my worthy friend, that their benevolence makes them forget all these heavy expences. I cannot forbear to add, that Lord and Lady Barrington, at Sedgefield, are looked upon as the parents of the distressed, and that their charitable attention to the poor is as remarkable as the distinguished title they have attained. My friend informed me, that his Lordship the Bishop of St. David's, whose bishopric is well known to be of small emolument, and whose dignified rank must necessarily require much to support it, when the living of Northallerton some time ago became vacant, and his Lordship's seniority in the Chapter, afforded him a desirable opportunity of improving his income, by merely taking possession of

that to which the law gave him an undoubted right, he refused this living on its being offered to him, with the reply, that as he should not be able personally to discharge its duties, his conscience would not allow him to accept it. "This noble act," I observed, "surp s-ses all my conceptions of virtue." "I am afraid," answered my friend, "that the great Doctors now assembled in Congress at Vienna, will not be able to produce from their University, such distinguished masters as they are, so striking an example of virtue."

At Sunderland, I found that the Rev. Dr. Gray, Rector of Bishopwearmouth, generously dedicated his time to the advantage of the inhabitants, by promoting several schools for the poor children of that place; and that Mrs. Gray has the benevolence personally to attend to two hundred girls. This respectable Divine, I understand, does not confine his charity merely to the poor children of his own parish, but with universal benevolence

and smiling benignity, calls around him the needy and distressed of all descriptions, and gives them every facility of emerging from their wretchedness. Among others, my friend related to me an anecdote of this body, which I noted in my memorandum book, as travellers are accustomed to do when they meet with any thing particularly worthy of observation. An officer and his wife came from Newcastle, on a visit to their friend in Durham: the officer being a gentleman of considerable information, and possessing great wit, had the power of making himself agreeable to company with very little trouble. One evening, at a party, he was amusing his auditors with serious and jocose conversation, when his lady interrupted him in rather an unpleasant way, describing to her neighbour the new fashions which had come out that year. Those two ladies now engrossed the conversation so compleatly to themselves, and entered into such a detailed

account of fashionable dresses, that every one had given up all hopes of getting in a single word, when at last the Captain, without ceremony, cut short the dialogue, by begging his wife not to exhaust herself, for fear she should get a brain fever, but to let him give an account of the battle of Salamanca, which he accordingly began. If this narration may be relied on, his company displayed such gallantry in this engagement, that they destroyed 300 French, in killed, wounded, and missing; and that the French standard was taken by his lieutenant. His lady, who found silence a very grievous penance, here observed, "My dear, this very same lieutenant is now a prisoner in Durham gaol for debt." A respectable clergyman, the Rev. W. Baverstock, who was present in the company, on hearing this, was so much surprised, and his feelings were so much affected, that he went to inquire whether he deserved assistance, and if it should be found

he did, to set him at liberty. He found, to his satisfaction, that this gentleman had contracted his debts merely from his desire to maintain a respectable appearance as an officer, and not, as we often find is the case, from dissipated conduct. The worthy Baverstock then endeavoured to deliver him from his captivity, but in vain; as he found that he could not, at the lowest estimation, supply from his own income the demand of the creditors. Happily, however, knowing where to find those whose merciful dispositions would make them gladly step forward to relieve such unmerited distress, he went without delay to that amiable man, the Rev. R. G. Bouyer, and explained to him all the particulars concerning this unfortunate officer. Mr. Bouyer immediately took him under his protection, and engaged that he should be relieved from his distressful situation. Baverstock, in the fulness of his joy, could not help relating the affair to the rest of that worthy body

I have mentioned before, the Bishop of Lichfield, Dr. Price, Dr. Zouch, the Rev. H. Phillpotts, and the Rev. D. Durell; whose virtues and humanity inspiring them with the same feelings, they joined the Rev. Mr. Bouyer in providing a sum of money to satisfy the troublesome creditors, and the officer was immediately set at liberty.

I cannot help mentioning, before I conclude, that a School on the Madras System has, for these several years, been established in this city, for the purpose of educating the children of the poor, in order to improve their morals, and enlarge their minds. The author of this benevolent Institution is the Rev. R. G. Bouyer. I have been told, that this extraordinary and venerable Prebendary exercises, with unwearied industry, his mental powers in new inventions to serve his fellow-creatures. Such a man is a greater benefit to his nation than the treasures of kings.

The Bishop is a descendant of the ancient

family of the Barringtons ; and, as Count Palatine of Durham, enjoys privileges equal to those formerly possessed by the Prince Bishop of Warmia, who was invested with a power which the Polish nation could not prevent him from exercising. I have learned from the information of my friends, and from the history of this Palatinate, that the Lord Bishop, in his principality of Durham, (placed as he is in the midst of a generous nation, who give him little trouble compared with that which Bishops on the Continent often experience, as in the principalities of Warmia and Courland, and others that have expired, and are now no more to be found) can make choice, according to his own pleasure, of his Chancellor, High Sheriff, Attorney General, Solicitor General, and many other respectable officers, who attend their duties in his courts of justice. As to the personal character of the Lord Bishop, I was highly gratified to hear from strangers, as well as

from the natives of his Palatinate, that he is distinguished for the practice of good and generous actions, and looks minutely after those who may stand in need of his assistance, and that he has improved with the greatest care a disposition naturally amiable. A store of honey is to be found in his polite conversation, and his appearance in public exhibits none of that stiffness which too often accompanies elevated stations.

The City of Durham, which is the metropolis of the Palatinate, has not an imposing appearance, as it contains not many buildings of fine architecture: but this disadvantage is abundantly compensated by the hospitality and kindness of its amiable inhabitants, and occasionally, by their brilliant assemblies, which give us so favourable an opportunity to admire the elegant and beautiful features of the ladies.

Amongst a variety of respectable persons, I met here a gentleman of high rank, of the

name of Smelt, who not only possessed elevated sentiments, but (as I discovered from his conversation) great knowledge, and a sound understanding. He honoured me with an invitation to stay at his country-house, near Northallerton, on my road to Hull, whither I expected to go soon, which I accepted, and met with a most kind reception. I remained there some time, where I had the pleasure of witnessing the effects of his bountiful heart in relieving the distresses of his fellow-creatures, and maintaining many families reduced from affluence to a state of poverty. He was pleased with my conversation, as all travellers have something to tell, finding in their road many new subjects of remark, and begged me to stay with him till he should receive a letter from London, as he expected he should have something to communicate which concerned my interest. This declaration greatly surprised me, as I had not an idea what he could mean. I re-

mained for some time in uncertainty, wondering who could take so much concern in my future destiny; for continued adversity had impressed me with an idea, that nothing but misery was left in store for me. At last, he received a letter from his friend, the Duke of Gloucester, brother to the King, who sent a sum of money for me, with a promise that his Majesty would put down his name for a hundred pounds, and waited only for the arrival of his dear friend Mr. Smelt, to give it into his hand. So flattering an expression from a Monarch gave me reason to think, my amiable benefactor would hasten to London immediately; but, to give me still further proofs of his generosity, he spent some time in collecting a subscription, having a powerful friend in Lord Mulgrave (who was his relation, and a Member of Parliament distinguished for his wisdom and virtue); he soon raised a considerable sum, and saying to me, "Since you are unfortunately desti-

tute of natural protectors, allow me, as a father, to direct your future welfare." He sent that money to his worthy friend the Rev. R. G. Bouyer, to dispose of for my interest. I willingly gave up, not only my concerns, but my whole heart to his disposal: he made no objections to my going to Hull, when he knew I had a concert to give there; but he expressed his particular wish, that I would wait in that town till his return from London.

After his departure, the aspect of my affairs was dismally changed. The first news I heard was the death of the Duke of Gloucester, and soon after, that of the King's illness, without any hope of his recovery; and, to complete my grievances, my dear Mr. Smelt, on his arrival at home, dropped down and expired, so that I never beheld him more. The loss of such a patron afflicted my heart with cruel pangs, and my sudden downfal from the height of prosperity to the

abyss of despair overwhelmed my faculties, and left me in such a state, as if I had suddenly awaked from a delirious dream. When the transports of my grief were abated, a train of melancholy reflections succeeded, against the attack of which I had no consolation wherein I could take refuge, but what I might derive from the consideration, that the fate imposed upon mortality is fixed by laws irrevocable, and severs without distinction the closest ties which bind us to each other. When I looked back upon the scenes of my past life, through the dark medium in which I viewed them, they presented nothing but a gloomy and cheerless picture; and I felt almost tempted to regard myself, as marked out by fortune to be the victim of grief and sorrow. Despair inspired me with a degree of fortitude. "Now," I exclaimed, "when I have lost in my dear friend the most valuable treasure, and the greatest happiness this world can furnish, I need not greatly fear

the worst my future lot may have in store for me. I, that have weathered some of life's roughest storms, need not shrink from venturing myself once more on t e tempestuous ocean."

Impelled by such reflections, I immediately left Hull, and set off for London in order to embark for America. But, as soon as I arrived there, I had the happiness to find the aspect of my fortune much improved. My kind benefactresses, the Misses Metcalfe, perceiving me to be deprived of every support, and plunged in the deepest misery, compassionated my distress; and, actuated by the most generous concern for my future welfare, vouchsafed to honour me with their protection, and to supply me with a sum of money, which has enabled me to enjoy the comforts of life. The only return which I am able to make for such benevolence is to describe it, and to make known to my readers the source of my independence. But

how can I find words to express my gratitude for their unremitted bounty conferred upon me, from the very moment of my arrival in England! Conscious, however, as I am, how inadequate must be all language to describe my feelings, I shall attempt to manifest to the world my deep sense of that beneficence which was so kindly exerted to relieve me from misery and want, and of the goodness of those blessed beings, who appeared like the rainbow in the storm, to disperse the dark clouds which had so long hung over my fortunes, and to announce to me the dawn of brighter prospects. How flattering was it to find myself honoured with the notice and protection of a family, endowed with such elevated sentiments of mind as that of Metcalfe, after having met with so many persons who seemed to pay me no regard, nor even to consider me as a fellow-creature, much less as one whose heart beats with all the feeling of an honest man!

To one possessed of tender sensibility, how painful are the reflections excited by such treatment! Happy must I esteem myself, that I have met with so many more whose liberal minds taught them to view me in a far different light—most happy, that Providence has enabled me to rank you, my benefactresses, as chief among the number. Fortunate was the lot that placed me within the limits of that extensive sphere, which your benevolence embraces. I owe it to that protection, which you so graciously conferred upon me, that I have not been compelled, by the necessity of my unhappy situation, still to wander, God knows whither, with his Providence alone for my guide. Be assured, that I will ever retain, in the inmost recesses of my soul, the delightful remembrance of your goodness; and that my heart will never cease to cherish those sentiments of gratitude with which your benevolence has impressed it; nor to pour forth

its earnest wish that the Supreme Being may ever bless you with his choicest blessings.

Before I had the happiness to enjoy the protection of the family of Metcalfe, I was anxious, in furtherance of the plan which I had projected, to give a concert, as I had then the opportunity of a free passage for America. I happened just at that time to meet with his Lordship the Archbishop of Dublin, and his lady, who had, during my stay in Ireland, honoured me with their patronage, and given me repeated proofs of their bounty. As I was so well acquainted with the noble dispositions of these eminent personages, whose greatest pleasure consisted in anxious and unremitted endeavours to promote the happiness of their fellow-creatures, and whose manners, though perfectly correspondent to their illustrious birth and high situation, were far from being formal and ceremonious, I ventured to request a renewal of their favour: I also took the

liberty to solicit Lord and Lady Hawarden, that they would honour me, by affording to my concert their patronage and protection. I was induced to make this bold request, by the circumstance of Lord Hawarden being the son-in-law of the Archbishop, and of the latter having honoured me with his particular notice. Lady Hawarden generously extended to me her patronage, which could not fail of procuring me a good benefit. The flattering circumstance of her protection of my concert is far, however, from being the only instance of her kindness, which it becomes my pleasing task to acknowledge. She crowned her favours by sending me a present, for fear I should be in want, and by placing annually in the hand of the amiable Miss Metcalfe, a sum of money to be remitted to me in Durham. Thus has her generosity compelled me to add my poor tribute to the sum of universal esteem and admiration, which must be paid by those who know

the virtues and the graces which ennoble and adorn her. But here I must stop : although my lively feelings may inspire me with language in some degree capable of expressing my gratitude, they cannot impart to me talents, of the want of which I am too conscious. That character, therefore, which my humble abilities would but injure by attempting to describe, I must content myself with admiring in silence. In addition to the many instances of kindness for which I am indebted to the illustrious family of the Hawardens, it becomes my pleasing duty to record the noble action of Colonel Greville, who gave me a striking proof of the delicacy of his sentiments, and of his feeling disposition, by generously presenting me with the sum of £100, as a help to increase my income. This money was remi ted by Mr. Metcalfe, and by Mr. Muir brother-in-law of my protectresses, to that amiable and worthy gentleman the Rev. R. G. Bouyer, who was

so kind as to add it to the sum which had been provided by my dear friend Mr. Smelt.

Notwithstanding the auspicious appearance which my affairs now began to assume, I had not yet recovered from despair, and still felt anxious to put in execution my purposed voyage to America. But as I had never been in the habit of keeping any thing secret from my benefactresses, who were acquainted with all my affairs from the beginning to the end, I disclosed to them my intentions. I could easily perceive, although they gave me no opinion as to my having determined well or ill, that what I had communicated had given them a gloomy impression, and the conversation terminated with their expressing a wish that I would accompany them next day into the country, to dine with Mrs. Muir their sister, who was unwell, and had a desire to see me. I went with them accordingly at the time appointed: every thing had been prepared for my

reception; and on my arrival, it was announced to me, that I need trouble my mind no more with ideas of going to the other side of the water, to glean for my living. At this fortunate moment, I received from their benevolent hands, a sum of money sufficient to procure me independence, and the enjoyment of a quiet, happy life. Such an unlooked-for reverse of fortune, thus terminating at once the troubles and fatigues to which I had been for so many years accustomed, excited in my breast a tumult of astonishment and joy, which deprived me of all power to give utterance to the emotions of my heart. My looks alone were capable of conveying the least idea of the transports and extacies of my gratitude towards the benevolent and amiable family of Metcalfe, for this last act of their beneficence, which so nobly crowned their former bounties.

I should prove myself but ill deserving of the many good friends it has been my happi-

ness to meet with, were I, whilst memory is employed in the delightful task of contemplating their kindness, to forget the name of Burdon of Hartford. This gentleman, being under an apprehension that I might be in want, offered, with the most unlimited generosity, to supply my necessities. I could not think of abusing the goodness of so noble and generous a heart, by unnecessarily availing myself of his liberal offer, and was therefore obliged to confess, that my circumstances were then such as placed me above the reach of want. He was a good deal surprised at this declaration, and no doubt concerned, that he was deprived of an opportunity of exercising his bounty. But let me assure his worthy family, that his kind intentions towards me have impressed me with sentiments of gratitude to his memory, which can never be extinguished but with life itself.

I am now drawing near to the conclusion of my wandering life, being arrived at that

period in which I quitted the busy stage where I had performed a part in so many tragic and comic scenes, and retired to the quiet enjoyment of an asylum from its cares and perplexities, which had been the object of my wishes from my earliest days. It was in the happy land of England that I found this blessing.

CONCLUSION.

The City of Durham appeared to be most happily adapted to my wishes for a retired life; not only from its romantic situation, but from its being the abode of a friend whose manners were so congenial with my own, and whose society afforded me such heartfelt delight. To Durham therefore I was now determined to direct my steps, intending to settle there, and once more enjoy the company of my worthy friend Ebdon.

A few days before my departure from London to realize this happiness, the anticipation of which brought tears of pleasure to my eyes, I had the good fortune to meet with a friend from the north, who politely offered to conduct me to Durham, at which

city he resides. I availed myself of his kindness; and we had no sooner arrived there, than he did me the honor to introduce me to his lady, who received me with all the polite attention and affability which so naturally spring from her amiable disposition.

After I had paid my respects to this esteemed gentlewoman, I immediately attended to that object which was nearest to my heart, and hastened to see my good friend Mr. Ebdon, whose share in my affections and esteem remained still undiminished. I informed him, on our meeting, that I had now quitted the busy theatre of the world, and its noisy and promiscuous intercourse, which had unmercifully robbed me of so many precious hours, that might, in retirement, have been devoted to a much better use in the improvement of the mind. I must now at the same time confess, observed I, that I have found travelling an excellent school for acquiring a more extensive and accurate knowledge of

mankind ; as it presents to our view such an astonishing variety of characters, minds, and manners of every description, and makes us acquainted with the moral, as well as the natural, phenomena of the world. I have, however, now obtained from that school all the knowledge I desire, and am not sorry to find myself safely lodged at last, in this snug little corner of the earth. My dear friend Ebdon, with his amiable family, happy to find that such were my seniments, and rejoicing in the prospect of my being at length freed from the troubles of the world, offered me, with most engaging frankness, a quiet asylum in his house.

This generous proposal convinced me, that I had now found one with whom friendship was something more than a bare name ; one in whose breast its noble and genuine principles were carefully cherished. I could not but reflect on the contrast he presented to the generality of those whom the world com-

pliments with the title of friends,—who too often mock our expectations of a substance, with an empty shadow; and I felt happy in being enabled to enjoy, in the decline of life, the serene and steady light of a sincere attachment, secure from the deceitful blaze of common friendship, which in a moment disappears, and leaves us involved in dismal darkness. Convinced as I was, that with Mr. Ebdon I incurred no risk of being deluded by the vain professions of an inconstant pretender of friendship; but that the proposal of this worthy man arose from the goodness of his disposition, and from the impulse of those feelings which prompted him to secure for me a happy retreat, I could not resist such kindness, but readily accepted his generous offer. My expectation of happiness in his society were fully realized; and deeply must I regret, that it was so soon to have an end. Unfortunately for myself, his family, and friends, he was seized with a dangerous

illness. Recourse was had, in vain, to all the help of medical art, and within a few months he died, with the same tranquillity and calmness of soul which had attended him through life. This sad event, which I cannot even now recal to mind without a tear, wounded my feelings deeply: severe, however, as was my grief, it seemed fully warranted by the consciousness I possessed, how worthy to be lamented was my departed friend; and I could not but look on the occasion as one of those which might, even in the sight of Heaven, justify my sorrow. My grief was soon perceived by the Misses Ebdon, who knowing that it proceeded from my affection to their father, generously proposed that we should remain together. This unexpected honour I accepted with much pleasure. From that time my days have been spent in their society, and to this moment I still employ myself in studying to evince the gratitude I feel for that kindness which has enabled me to enjoy my

beloved retreat, with those who had been the happy witnesses of my introduction to it, and who are so nearly allied, as well by disposition as by blood, to that lamented friend to whom I owe the blessing.

POSTSCRIPT.

From the period when I fixed my residence in a quiet and retired cottage, where my days glided on in undisturbed tranquillity, I had ceased to remember that I was born the child of misfortune; my troubles had all passed away, and I vainly flattered myself, that in this sweet retirement, adversity would never reach me. Thus happy in my present situation, and elated with the most flattering prospects of futurity, I undertook and completed the task of writing my Memoirs. But no sooner had I delivered them into the hands of the Printer, than I had the misfortune to lose my dearest protectress, Miss Margaret Metcalfe. My feelings are too painful to permit my dwelling on the dis-

tressing subject. I leave it to the reader to conceive, how severe a task it is to support the affliction felt, when our dearest friend has bidden an eternal farewell to the world. Nor will time itself avail to heal my sorrows ; for a loss so great as I have sustained must be contemplated, even to the latest moments of existence, with the deepest grief and regret. One melancholy satisfaction I possess, —the thought that I was regarded by my lamented benefactress, at the close of her valuable life, as not unworthy of the goodness she had extended to me during so long a period of it, and that I still owe my independence to her bounty. Her sacred memory is now, alas! all that is left of my protectress, and there my gratitude must ever dwell.

FINIS.

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ERRATA.

Page 190, line 2, for *am*, read *was*.

—— 199, line 8, for *Mrs. Brown*, read *Mrs. B——*.

—— 297, line 11, for *genearl*, read *general*.

—— 305, line 19, after *through*, substitute a *comma* for the *period*.